

# NEWS SUMMARY

**GENERAL**

**Security service inquiry ordered**

The Prime Minister ordered an inquiry into the sources of Chapman Pincher's allegations of Soviet infiltration of UK security services.

The inquiry, expected to be carried out by MI5, will investigate past and present members of the services.

Evidence will be presented to Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, with a view to Official Secrets Act prosecutions.

**Airport strike**

Heathrow airport faces disruption by immigration staff in Civil Servants' pay action. Page 3

**'Mini' airfare**

British Caledonian is to offer a £42 "Mini-Prix" London-Amsterdam fare from Wednesday. Page 3

**Envoy nomination**

President Reagan is to nominate John J. Louis Jr. as Ambassador to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**'No' to Biggs**

Ronald Biggs' application for release was rejected in Barbados. Extradition proceedings can now begin.

**Siege verdict**

David Pagett was sentenced to 12 years for the manslaughter of Gail Kinchin, whom he used as a shield as police fired at him.

**Ex-PC cleared**

Former policeman Peter Swindell was cleared of the manslaughter of prostitute Pat Malone, but found guilty of preventing her burial.

**Sailors dismissed**

Nine sailors from the Royal yacht Britannia were dismissed the service for homosexual acts, illegal for forces members.

**Access action**

Computer data staff for Access card operations were instructed to work to rule from Monday. Page 3

**Times claim lost**

A Frankfurt firm commissioned to print the Times during its dispute lost a claim against the West German union that stopped the plan.

**Honduran hijack**

A Honduran airliner with 57 on board was hijacked and ordered down to Nicaragua, where negotiations had begun.

**Briton expelled**

Pakistan deported a Briton after announcing it would expel mercenaries seeking to fight with tribal-led Afghanistan rebels.

**Rugby tour snub**

Irish rugby player John Robbie quit his job with Guinness after being refused leave for May's South African tour.

**Fishermen lost**

The search for two fishermen from Buckie, North East Scotland, was called off. Six others were lost only last week.

**Child abuse case**

Essex social workers were criticised for taking "no positive action" to prevent the death of 14-month-old Malcolm Page.

**Briefly...**

Summer time starts on Sunday. Clocks go forward an hour.

Queen gave formal consent to Prince Charles' marriage.

Danube rose to its highest level this century in widespread floods around Belgrade.

Ching-ching, London Zoo's panda, was back on view after being ill.

**BUSINESS**

**Sterling off 2.25c; equities firm**

DOLLAR benefited from thin trading because of the worries about Poland. It closed at DM 2.1150 (DM 2.1100) and SwFr 1.5300 (SwFr 1.5200). Its trade-weighted index was higher at 100.7 (99.7). Page 21

STERLING was weaker overall. It finished 2.25 cents lower at \$2.2280. Its trade-weighted index fell to 100.4 (100.5). Page 21

GOLD was unchanged at \$339.5, a \$22 rise on the week. Page 21

EQUITIES were firm. The FT 30-share index rose 2.4 to 521.3, its highest level since May 1979. Page 19

GILTS were marginally lower. The Government Securities Index fell 0.02 to 70.16. Page 19

WALL STREET was down 11.45 to 994.33 near the close. Page 18

U.S. ECONOMIC indicators index fell by 0.4 per cent in February. Page 2

WEST GERMAN TRADE figures improved last month to a DM 900m (£158m) surplus, against a DM 924m deficit in January. Back Page

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER, the U.S. heavy transport and farm equipment maker, said some of its creditor banks declined to roll over maturing notes and placed them on a demand basis. Back Page

C. E. LUMMUS, a U.S. contracting group, and Veolia of Venezuela, won contracts worth \$700m (£140m) to supervise Orinoco oil belt development. Back Page

COURTAULDS will axe a further 380 jobs at its Greenfield, North Wales, plant. Page 3

S. PEARSON will take legal and accounting advice on whether to make any claims over Fairway Holdings' failure to meet its profits forecast last year. Back Page

LONRHO's bid for The Observer was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Page 16

SAUDI ARABIAN investment group paid Pfr 65m (£5.8m) for a 5 per cent stake in Club Mediterranée, the French holiday-village operator. Page 19

**COMPANIES**

COPE ALLMAN International, engineering and packaging group, reported pre-tax losses of £9.95m for the half-year to end-December, against profits of £5.71m previously. Interim dividend is omitted. Page 16

IBSTOCK JOHNSON, building products group, reported 1980 pre-tax profits down from £4.68m to £2.16m, but the dividend is maintained at 4.5p. Page 16

FAIRVIEW ESTATES, property developer and investor, reported reduced pre-tax profits of £2.7m (£4.8m) for the half-year to end-December. Page 17

# Solidarity brings Poland to standstill

By Christopher Bobinski in Warsaw

SOLIDARITY, Poland's 8m-strong independent union, yesterday brought industry throughout the country to a standstill for four hours.

Later in the day the Government met union leaders to continue the search for an agreement which could head off an indefinite national strike scheduled to start next Tuesday.

The meeting took place at a time when Warsaw Pact troops are engaged in "Spring manoeuvres" on Polish soil, and when the issue of intervention in Poland appears to be under active discussion in other East European capitals.

Moderates in the Communist Party leadership, who include General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister and Mr. Stanislaw Kania, the Party leader, are thought to be eager to find a settlement before a crucial meeting of the Polish party central committee on Sunday.

At this meeting, the hard-line majority is expected to mount an offensive against the moderates and win approval for a policy ruling out concessions to Solidarity.

The Prime Minister and his backers, however, hope that their hand will be strengthened if they can conclude a peace deal before Sunday.

Central committees of all the East European Communist Parties, except the Soviet Union's, have met in the past few days. This is seen as an indication that Poland's Warsaw Pact partners are ready to support the hard liners should the need arise.

A statement from President Nikolai Ceausescu, the Romanian leader, that each nation had the right to determine its own fate was seen as another reminder that the decision to intervene is being weighed.

Mr. Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, told strikers at the Ursus tractor factory outside Warsaw that the strike had been "essential" in order to show the authorities that Solidarity was disciplined and ready to back its demands with concerted action.

Just after 5 pm, Mr. Walesa began talks with Mr. Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a deputy prime minister, at which the Government was reported to have presented a new set of proposals to counter Solidarity's demands. The union insists on punishment for the policemen who, it claims, last week beat up a union official in Bydgoszcz. It also seeks the dismissal of local officials.

This is a major sticking point because any official confirmation that the union man was attacked by police would be a blow to the hard-liners in the leadership who are thought to have engineered the incident in order to bring about the present crisis.

Another difficult Solidarity demand is an amnesty for all dissidents since 1976. The union has so far shown no signs of being ready to make concessions.

The two sides are, however, expected to make progress on the question of official recognition of private farmers' right to form trade unions. It seems the church, which is playing an active role in the search for an agreement, has persuaded the authorities to make concessions here.

The General Council of the Polish Journalists' Association yesterday instructed its members not to allow themselves to be manipulated, and to report the objective truth in this crisis "as it is important that the channels of social communication remain open."

Jurek Martin in Washington writes: A battery of senior U.S. Government officials yesterday stepped up their warnings of the dire consequences for East-West relations if the Soviet Union intervened in Poland.

Predicting that there would be a much more unified allied response than was the case with the invasion of Afghanistan, Mr. Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence, said Soviet action would render "totally useless" any planned arms reduction talks with Moscow, including those on European theatre nuclear force deployment.

Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, described the coming weekend as "crucial." He said the Polish Communist Party was split between hard and soft-liners. He viewed with grave concern the extension of the Warsaw Pact military manoeuvres in Poland beyond their scheduled end on Thursday this week.

David Satter in Moscow writes: "The Soviet news agency Tass yesterday denounced the leaders of Solidarity as 'political instigators' and said the four-hour warning strike was an attempt to force the Polish Government to accept 'anti-socialist, anti-people' demands."

In another carefully measured escalation of the Soviet rhetoric over Poland, Tass said the leaders of the dissident group KOR had entrenched themselves in Solidarity and were creating "chaos and anarchy" in the country.

## NERVOUS BUYING OF DOLLAR AND GOLD

The dollar finished at DM 2.1150, up from Thursday's DM 2.1100. Its drop from the peak during the day of DM 2.1430 reflected profit-taking and dealers' favourable reaction to news of a lower West German current account deficit in February.

Gold jumped to around \$550 per ounce at one stage, but fell later to finish in London at \$539.50, unchanged from Thursday.

Within the European Monetary System, the Belgian franc remained throughout the day at its lowest permitted level against the D-Mark. It has been under strong downward pressure this week in spite of support intervention from central banks and the Belgian authorities' moves to raise interest rates and cut public spending.

Concern about the Polish crisis sparked off nervous buying of dollars and gold on international financial markets yesterday. The D-Mark was particularly depressed in London, but recovered later in thin and erratic trading.

Sterling fell 2.25 cents to close in London at \$2.2280, after dropping at one point to \$2.2175.

## £1bn short tap floated as index-linked gilts sell out

By Peter Riddell, Economics Correspondent

THE NEW £1bn indexed-linked gilts stock was over-subscribed yesterday and allocated at exactly £100 to give a real (inflation-adjusted) rate of return of 2 per cent a year.

The Bank of England quickly followed the sell-out of this stock with the announcement of a short-dated tap—£1bn of 1½ per cent Treasury 1985.

This issue takes advantage of market hopes that Minimum Lending Rate will be cut in the next couple of months.

The allotted price on the indexed stock—2 per cent Treasury 1986—is lower than expected by many gilt analysts. This follows an intense debate among actuaries and investors in the past 10 days.

At first the market thought that pension funds and similar schemes, the only bodies eligible to subscribe, would bid above £110 and accept a real return of 1 to 1½ per cent a year.

But these views were revised as several leading actuaries argued that a higher real return was needed in relation to yields on conventional gilts, equities and property.

All allotments on the stock have been made at £100. Tenders at prices above £100 have been allocated in full.

Tenders made at £100 have been allocated as follows: tenders of up to £1m will be allotted in full; tenders of above £1m but less than £2m will receive next Wednesday, with a further £15 due on May 8 and the balance on June 12. The small early payments take account of the large amount of funding already arranged over the next six weeks. This phasing is also a bait for the market though the tender price is slightly above the current market level.

In a further move towards a more market-determined system of fixing short-term interest rates the Bank of England yesterday did not announce any dealing rates for one-month Treasury Bills in the money market. This in line with the moves since last November.

Two months ago, for example, the Bank stopped announcing dealing rates for Treasury bills of over one month and up to three months maturities.

Consequently, the market will have to take its own view on the rates at which it will offer bills. It will thus have a greater say in fixing rates than in the past.

Eric Short adds: The yields shown in the Share Information Service on the new indexed-linked stock are based on the latest interest payments and redemption value. As such they represent the real rate of return on the stock above the rate of price inflation. Interest payments and the final capital repayment are linked to movements in the Retail Prices Index.

The yield calculation differs from the normal yields shown for British Government securities, where interest and capital payments are fixed in money terms.

The redemption yield is lower than the flat yield at par because of the incidence of payment for the stock. To compare yields between the indexed stock and ordinary gilts, the real rate of return should be added to the current rate of inflation.

The government has decided to withdraw the success of 19th issue of National Savings Certificates from May 9 and to replace it with a lower interest bearing 21st issue. There will be a £5,000 maximum investment in the new issue, which will offer an overall compound interest rate of 9 per cent a year if held for the full five years. This is equivalent to 12.9 per cent gross for basic rate taxpayers.

## EEC ministers agree to back fines for steel price cutting

By Giles Merritt in Brussels

EUROPEAN Community industry ministers yesterday agreed to back the Commission's threats to impose fines on steel-makers who cut prices.

The special council of ministers, at the end of 16 hours of negotiations in Brussels, also reached tentative agreement on phasing out what have been regarded as unfair national subsidies to the steelmakers, and establishing a restructuring programme aimed at cutting out excess capacity in the industry.

The decisions mark a major advance in attempts to tackle the worsening crisis in the European steel industry, although, to break the deadlock which almost threatened to wreck the negotiations, the new steel deal has been watered down and contains no timetable.

The council, discussing the steel prices war which has broken out in a number of product sectors, supported the Commission's plan to enforce discipline by using tough rules in the European Coal and Steel Community's Pact Treaty to levy fines on the price-cutters.

The breakthrough on subsidies followed an apparent softening of West Germany's hard line demands that such aid should be tightly linked to genuine restructuring efforts needed to reduce the steel industry's excess capacity.

Italy refused to accept this because it feared that such a code could jeopardise its \$6bn (£2.7bn) financing project for State-owned Finsider and would eventually open much of its domestic market to other EEC steel-makers.

Italy managed to insert "financial restructuring" in the modernisation and closure conditions under which aids until mid-1983 may be acceptable.

In spite of the lack of a timetable on the steel deal, it is being viewed in Brussels as an expression of political will to resolve the problem.

M. Gaston Thorn, President of the Brussels Commission, yesterday expressed cautious optimism at the outcome of the meeting, although he warned that the aids pact at present was largely an agreement of principles which left divisive details to be worked out.

He said the accord should encourage the major State-owned steelmakers of the Eurofer "club" to accept voluntary production quotas.

Tomorrow in Luxembourg the dozen major EEC steel producers are to begin two days of talks on a voluntary pact to replace the mandatory controls regime which expires on June 30. They do so in the shadow of an April 1 deadline set by member Governments, and although the producers have said that "broad consensus" has been reached, West Germany's Klöckner is understood still to object to the scheme.

The European Commission now has two months in which to prepare a study of steel aids in the EEC. A review of the types of assistance and their impact began with national experts in Brussels yesterday. Member Governments must also address themselves to agreeing the timetable for major restructuring and the allocation of capacity cuts.

## Saudis may lend IMF \$5bn

By Jurek Martin, U.S. Editor, in Washington

THE International Monetary Fund is believed to have reached agreement on a borrowing of approximately \$5bn (£2.2bn) from Saudi Arabia.

In exchange, the Kingdom is to be given enhanced voting power on the IMF board. An announcement to this effect was expected late last night.

At the same time it emerged that finance ministers representing the group of five major industrialised countries—the U.S., Japan, West Germany, France and the UK—would meet, probably in London early next month, to discuss both the state of the world economy and particular policy decisions confronting the IMF. They would be joined by their respective central bank governors.

Such a meeting, while not officially confirmed by either the U.S. Treasury or the Federal Reserve, was seen here as a logical preparation for the session of the IMF's policy-making interim committee, due to be held in Gabon late in May.

The larger group of 10 Finance Ministers is also expected to confer prior to the Gabon meeting, probably in early May.

The April meeting will also allow European countries, led by West Germany, to voice unease over recent fluctuations in currency markets caused by swings in U.S. interest rates.

The resolution of the Saudi borrowing, long in negotiation and intended to supplement the IMF's liquidity, obviously removes what would have been a major item from the Ministerial agenda.

But the group of five meeting would mark the debut of Mr. Donald T. Regan, the U.S. Treasury Secretary, in the international economic debate at a time when there is great uncertainty over the U.S. attitude towards the multinational agencies in particular.

IMF officials note, for example, that the Ministers are bound to discuss additional allocations of Special Drawing Rights (the IMF's own currency), how the proposed new "food facility" will be created, the question of the IMF's raising money on its own account from the private markets, and—if only in a preliminary way—the eighth increase in IMF quotas, supposed to take effect by 1983.

All these topics are to be taken up in Gabon, but in none of them is the position of the Reagan Administration known.

Paul Bettis writes in New York: Security Pacific National Bank, one of the largest West Coast banks, increased its prime rate by half a percentage point to 17.5 per cent yesterday.

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If 'top-up', amount of first mortgage and interest rate £ \_\_\_\_\_ %

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## CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)

Treas. 12pc 2003-05	299 1/8	+
Amal. Metal	263	+19
Bestobell	420	+22
Boustead	187	+9
British Aerospace	195	+4
Cohen (A.I.)	280	+20
Dixons Photographic	159	+11
Henlys	95	+11
Howden (Alex.)	123	+5
Ibstock Johnson	477	+9
Land Securities	630	+8
Lloyds Bank	325	+6
Lucas	56	+8
Lyons and Lyon	248	+5
NEPC	397	+10
Nappes (Bernard)	142	-3
Ricardo Engineers	492	+14
Rank Org.	194	+8
Wilkes (J.)	85	+5
Wolsey-Hughes	268	+11
Ashton Mining	135	+5
Joburg. Cons.	232	+10
Messina	265	+10
Pabang Cons.	55	+5
Randfontein Ests.	228	+1
Brown and Jackson	66	-4
Eagle Star	233	-5
Gordon (Louis)	35	-8
Kleinwort Benson	276	-8
Standard Inds.	80	-9
Ryl. Bk. of Scotland	142	-3

FALLS

Entertain. Guide	12	-1
Financial Times	10	-1
FT Actuarial	22	-1
Gardening	13	-1

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

## Economic activity in U.S. falls for third month

BY JUREK MARTIN, U.S. EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

THE U.S. Government yesterday reported further evidence of pending softness in the economy later in the year but continued to maintain that a fully-fledged recession is unlikely to occur.

Its index of leading economic indicators, designed to predict future economic activity, fell by 0.4 per cent in February, according to provisional figures put out by the Commerce Department.

This is the same decline as in January. In December, the index also fell, though the Department sharply revised its original calculations to come up with a 0.1 per cent drop, compared with the previously estimated 0.9 per cent fall.

This means that the index has declined for three consecutive months which normally, though not infallibly, is considered a harbinger of a change in economic fortunes.

But Department analysts noted that the monthly declines were quite modest and certainly not of the size which presaged the short but sharp recession of last year and the deep recession of 1974-75.

They also pointed out that,

since World War II, there have been six occasions in which monthly declines in the index which had not been succeeded by an actual recession.

Government economists now predict that the second and third quarters of this year may show little, if any, growth in real terms.

In the first three months, an internal estimate drawn up by the Commerce Department suggested that the economy has been expanding at a real annual rate of about 5 per cent.

But recent indices, most notably the sharp fall in housing starts and the decline in industrial production, have pointed to a growing decline in the economy.

Reuter adds from Washington: Mr. Paul Volcker, Federal Reserve Board chairman, said yesterday the Fed will maintain a firm control on monetary growth, and that recent changes in short-term interest rates should not be interpreted as a change of Fed policy.

The Fed's policy of restraint on money creation should lead to lower, not higher interest rates, as inflation subsides, he added.

## Malaysia defence spending to rise to £1.9bn

BY ALAIN CASS AND WONG SULONG IN KUALA LUMPUR

THE Government of Datuk Hussein Onn is to increase Malaysia's defence forces dramatically over the next five years, as part of a major effort to protect itself against instability in the region arising from the confrontation between Vietnam and China.

Under the new Five-Year Development Plan announced yesterday, defence spending will soar to \$4.16bn (£1.9bn), or 24 per cent of total expenditure over the period.

According to senior officials, even this figure will be further increased—possibly doubled—within two years. The armed forces, including the paramilitary police, will double in size to more than 250,000 men by 1985.

New weapons are likely to include U.S. Skyhawk fighters, attack-helicopters to fight Communist insurgents along the border with Thailand, fast patrol boats, tanks, and a number of new military bases around the country.

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Substantial new funds will also be injected into improving the educational and economic advancement of the indigenous Malays.

The fear is not so much of a direct external invasion by either Vietnam or China, but an overspill into Malaysia of a second major clash between Peking and Hanoi.

The second major pillar of the plan is to speed up moves to improve the status of the indigenous Malays. The Malays—economically backward but politically dominant—are to control 30 per cent of the corporate sector by 1990.

This will be done largely through the State-owned National Equity Corporation, and other agencies. This measure has major significance for foreign companies in Malaysia and also the country's powerful Chinese business community.

Substantial new funds will also be injected into improving the educational and economic advancement of the indigenous Malays.

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## Yugoslav riot police fly in to quell students

By Anthony Robinson in Pristina

STUDENT UNREST in Pristina, capital of the Albanian-speaking Yugoslav province of Kosovo, subsided yesterday after riot police suppressed protests on the university campus on Thursday.

The fact that special riot police were flown in from Belgrade to put down what was ostensibly a protest against living conditions on the campus reflects the Yugoslav leadership's sensitivity to any unrest which might conceivably damage the existing balance between ethnic groups in this multi-national country.

Ten students were arrested and police allegedly beat up another in the philosophy faculty during the protests, which involved about 400 students. Only four students were detained overnight, an official spokesman said.

Police used tear gas to break up groups of students who gathered on the campus and riot police sealed off the university from the rest of the town. The campus was crowded for Yugoslavia's annual National Relay Race.

University sources confirmed yesterday that demands for improved conditions had been put by the students after a similar riot two weeks ago. Some improvements have already been made.

But political undertones were revealed by the demand of a minority of students for the upgrading of Kosovo from its present status as an autonomous province of Serbia to a fully-fledged republic. Yugoslavia has six republics and two autonomous provinces—Kosovo and Vojvodina.

The last time republican demands were raised was in 1968, but then they were more constitutional and overtly political. Since then Kosovo has received several hundred million dollars of Federal aid and local autonomy has been considerably increased.

The province now has its own searail flag with a black Albanian eagle and rapid population growth has increased the Albanian component to around 80 per cent of the total.

Rapid economic development has helped to defuse such pressures in the past. Kosovo will continue to receive large Federal subsidies in future. But the present economic slowdown—inflation is at 40 per cent and unemployment rising—could create further strains in what is still Yugoslavia's poorest province. Average incomes are less than half the national average.

Kosovo was ruled by the Turks for more than 600 years and only 20 years ago Pristina, now a city of 130,000 people, was a mere village of 16,000 people with low Turkish-style houses and a shabby of minarets standing out against the surrounding brown hills.

The minarets remain, but Pristina now boasts Yugoslavia's second-largest university with 36,000 students, a brand new campus, new modern-design library, copper-roofed cultural centre and high-rise buildings.

## THREE MILE ISLAND CELEBRATES AN ANNIVERSARY

## Two years of coma for U.S. nuclear power

BY PAUL BETTS IN HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

"IT ALL happened here two years ago. Like today, there were three or four people in the control room and everything looked fine. The panel showed that the pressuriser valve was closed, but in fact it was jammed and open, damaging the reactor core."

In this matter-of-fact way, Mr. George Kunder, a supervisor in the Three Mile Island nuclear plant's Unit Two control room, described the accident which two years ago today sent the U.S. nuclear industry into a state of coma, shattering public confidence, and undermining nuclear power as an alternative to oil, gas and coal.

The controversy still rages. The two units with a combined capacity of 1,700 megawatts, owned by the General Public Utilities Corporation (GPU), lie idle on the island in the Susquehanna River. The damaged Unit Two still contains 700,000 gallons of radioactive water. No agreement has yet been reached on the \$1bn clean-up of the crippled plant. And, unless a solution is swiftly found, the future of Three Mile Island—and, for that matter, of U.S. nuclear energy—will probably be decided in a bankruptcy court.

The fact is that GPU, faced with continuing delays and bitter arguments at federal and local level, has spent about \$200m from its insurance funds and now has only \$100m in insurance money left to complete the \$1bn clean-up.

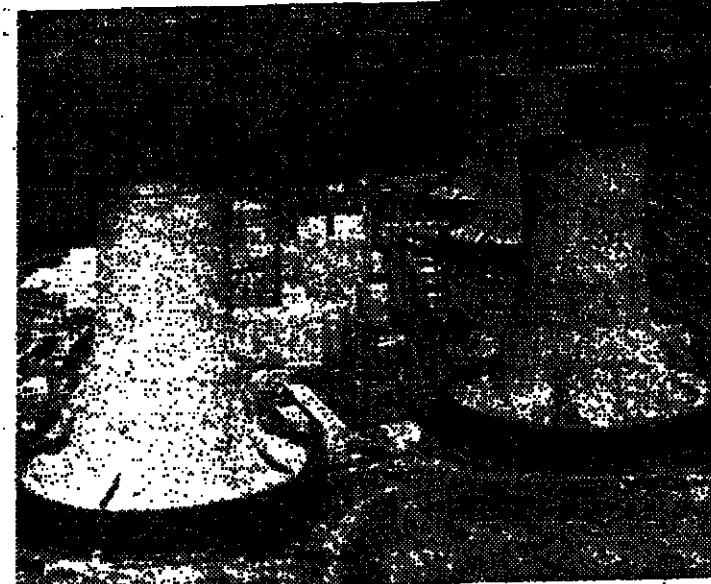
GPU's financial position is desperate. The utility has

omitted five consecutive quarterly dividend payments. It has had to buy expensive replacement power to offset the losses from Three Mile Island, designed to supply electricity to nearly 1.25m homes. Its net income last year totalled \$21m, compared with \$96m in 1979. Its only source of funds, apart from the insurance money, is short-term borrowing, but the banks now appear reluctant to extend the revolving credit agreement negotiated in June 1979 which has kept the company barely afloat.

Mr. Philip Alost, a senior GPU official, warned during a tour of the plant: "Unless we can borrow more from the banks, default is a real possibility." The banks have indicated they would extend GPU's capital lifeline only if the utility got adequate rate relief. But on April 15, GPU must come up with \$28m to pay its Pennsylvania taxes, and unless it can do so, bankruptcy proceedings will begin.

"Bankruptcy is in nobody's interest," claimed Mr. Robert Arnold, chief operating officer of GPU's nuclear group. It would not resolve the clean-up problems or dispose of the radioactive water. GPU has indeed decided to go ahead with removing and treating the contaminated water at its own financial risk.

According to GPU, the contaminated water is the biggest potential risk. "This plant was not designed as a reservoir. And so long as the water remains in the reactor building,



Three Mile Island: Nemesis for nuclear power

there is a chance it could leak out and eventually reach the Susquehanna River," said one official as he showed off a \$9m system now being installed to decontaminate the water. But he also suggested GPU was worried less by the public reaction, leak than by the effects of the hysteria of two years ago and all the old wives' tales about contaminated fish that glows in the freezer.

More significantly, unless the clean-up is speeded up—the present uncertain schedule is for it to be completed by 1986—Three Mile Island will remain

the major obstacle to the development of nuclear energy in the U.S. Since the accident, no U.S. utility has ordered a new reactor, and scores have cancelled earlier contracts. Other obstacles are clouding the U.S. nuclear industry's future, including regulatory delays, the unresolved problem of permanent disposal of nuclear waste, lower than expected demand for electricity—prompting utilities to reconsider their long-term capital investment programmes—and the continuing lack of clear government policies.

None the less, GPU and the nuclear industry in general have

been encouraged by the new Republican Administration's apparent commitment to nuclear energy. Mr. James Schmidt, the new Energy Secretary, recently said: "I am a strong supporter of nuclear energy. There is no real place to turn to in the next 30 years other than nuclear to help keep us being all hostages to foreign countries."

Last month, the nuclear safety oversight committee, a congressional advisory group set up last year by President Jimmy Carter, recommended that a federal assistance plan be implemented for Three Mile Island. The proposals call for direct federal funding of 50 per cent of uninsured clean-up costs and federal loans or loan guarantees, similar to those granted to Chrysler, for the rest.

President Reagan recently installed as chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mr. Joseph Hendrie, who stepped down after the Three Mile Island accident. Mr. Hendrie is expected to adopt a more sympathetic approach to Three Mile Island.

Yet despite all these developments, there are still few signs of broad consensus. The basic issue, according to GPU, is that the clean-up should be spread not placed firmly on the utility's shoulders. The utility industry is by no means united nor are the state and federal regulatory agencies. As one official at Three Mile Island said: "Time is running out, and a workable solution is being sought."

## French poll puts brake on EEC fish pact

BY LARRY KLINGER IN BRUSSELS

THE EMERGENCY EEC Council of Fisheries Ministers broke up after only a few hours of talks in Brussels yesterday with the clear impression that there could be no final settlement in establishing a common fisheries policy until after the French presidential elections are over.

Despite the declaration by the European heads of Government at their summit meeting earlier this week that final agreement should be reached as soon as possible, the Ministers yesterday found themselves only able to reiterate their national positions and to agree on a statement to continue their efforts at a later date.

"Although it proved impossible to arrive at a complete solution in such a short time, the political resolve to reach final decisions this spring on all of the problems was confirmed," the statement said. The Ministers made no real effort to hide their awareness that the French Government finds it impossible to be seen to make real concessions ahead of the approaching elections—the first round of which is on April 26.

Mr. Peter Walker, the

British Minister, and Herr Josef Ertl, the West German Minister, admitted as much, and even Mr. Daniel Heide, the French Minister, said that further serious negotiations had to be postponed.

While avoiding a direct reply on whether the elections were a deciding factor, he said that to fix a date for a further meeting in a short time would serve no purpose.

The most likely time for full-scale talks to resume is in the weeks between the French elections and ahead of the close of the Dutch presidency of the Council at the

end of June. Mr. Walker is due to assume the presidency for six months from July 1, and the British clearly feel that their term of office could be damaged by a continuing battle over fisheries policy.

Meanwhile, the battle lines remained little changed. While there were again claims that progress had been made over the past week because the issues had been better defined, the British, French and Germans showed little indication that they were prepared to modify their positions.

## Pretoria proposes controls on trade unions

BY BERNARD SIMON IN JOHANNESBURG

NEW CONTROLS on trade unions and greater rights for individual workers are included in the draft of a wide-ranging new labour law published by the South African Government.

Trade Unionists and other analysts have not yet had a chance to study the provisions of the draft legislation, known as the Industrial Conciliation Act Amendment Bill, in detail. It appears, however, that substantial changes have been made to an earlier draft.

The Minister of Manpower Utilisation, Mr. Fanie Botha, said that the new bill provides for trade unions to open their membership to workers of all races. It also abolishes all sex discrimination.

Mr. Botha said that the bill guarantees trade union "autonomy," including the right of

SOUTH AFRICAN army and air force units are co-operating with the police in a massive sweep on the black township of Soweto, outside Johannesburg, writes Bernard Simon.

The raid, described yesterday by the Commissioner of Police, Gen. Mike Geldenhuys, as an "ordinary crime prevention operation," has lasted several days. House-to-house searches have been conducted

throughout the sprawling township, which has an estimated population of over 1m people. Roadblocks have been set up at all entrances to the area.

Soweto has been the focal point of black opposition to the South African Government for several years. Widespread urban unrest in 1976 and 1977 began there, and police have frequently raided

the township since then. Gen. Geldenhuys denied an earlier statement, attributed to the chief of the security police, that large quantities of explosives, ammunition and arms had been seized.

The security chief was also reported to have said that the raid had uncovered a hideout suspected of being used by urban guerrillas.

published in a Johannesburg morning newspaper yesterday suggests that the mining industry, which is the country's largest private sector employer, should not recognise unions representing blacks unless they meet a number of stringent conditions.

The confidential document, to ensure that union leaders calling a strike do not organise themselves. Meanwhile, evidence that some powerful South African employers still favour tight controls on black trade unions has been reinforced by a memorandum on the unionisation of black mine-workers, compiled by the Chamber of Mines.

## Israel warns UN over Lebanon plan

ISRAEL warned yesterday that its troops could be drawn into conflict with UN forces if the UN command kept trying to change the picture along Israel's northern border, said an Aviv correspondent.

The warning was issued privately by senior Israeli officers who see a serious threat in UN attempts to force Lebanese Government forces in so-called "free Lebanon"—the border strip ruled by Major Saad Haddad and his pro-Israel right-wing militia.

Main target of criticism has been Ireland's Maj. Gen. William Callaghan, the force's newly-appointed commander of UN troops in South Lebanon.

## Minister denies Kenya treason plot links

MR. CHARLES NJONJO, Kenya's powerful Minister of Constitutional and Home Affairs, denied yesterday that he was involved in an alleged plot to overthrow President Daniel Arap Moi, John Worrall reports from Nairobi.

Mr. Njonjo was called as a prosecution witness in a treason case at Nairobi magistrates' court where a businessman is accused of attempting to procure two air force officers to steal hand grenades, aircraft bombs, machine guns, rifles, ammunition and plastic explosives from Kenya's army and air force.

Another man is charged with knowing the businessman's intentions and failing to report them.

## Oslo awards three new oil exploration licences

BY FAY GJETER IN OSLO

NORWAY'S Government yesterday awarded three new petroleum exploration licences in coastal waters north of the 62nd parallel, one off central Norway and two off the Arctic town of Hammerfest.

Norwegian firms have been chosen as operators on blocks of the licence areas, or blocks, with a major foreign oil company acting as technical assistant in each case. Statoil, the Norwegian state oil company, has a 50 per cent stake in each licence.

Saga, Norway's largest private oil company, will be

the operator on the block off mid-Norway, with Shell as technical assistant. Norsk Hydro, 51 per cent state-owned, will be operator on one of the northernmost blocks, with BP as technical assistant while Statoil will be operator on the other, with technical help from Esso.

The Norwegian Storting (Parliament) decided earlier this week that exploration drilling on blocks north of the parallel could begin on April 15 this year, a fortnight earlier than the 1980 permitted start-up date.

## Turkey 'to approach Ten again'

By Metin Munk in Ankara

TURKEY'S military rulers have decided that Turkey should seriously start preparing to make an application to become a full member of the European Economic Community after democracy is restored.

The decision was made at a meeting earlier this week by General Kenan Evren, the head of state, and his ruling National Security Council of Generals after they listened to a briefing by senior civil servants of Turkey's troubled history with the community.

In 1980 the civilian government of Mr. Süleyman Demirel had alarmed Brussels by saying it would present an application for membership by the end of the year.

The generals decided the Turkish should aim to become a full member of the EEC as soon as possible and start taking all economic, technical and social measures necessary to achieve this target after civil rule is restored, officials said.

Greece's accession to the Community and Spain and Portugal's imminent membership seems to have created the feeling in the Government that Turkey is being squeezed out of the officials said.

Turkey, which is an associate member of the EEC, was originally scheduled to become a member in 1986. However, stopped fulfilling some obligations since 1977 and at one point froze its relations with the Community.

## The American Express Card

American Express Company announces that, with effect from 1st April, 1981, fees for Sterling American Express Cards for UK residents will be:

Enrolment Fee for Basic Cards	£17.50
Annual Subscription for Basic Cards	£17.50
Annual Subscription for Supplementary Cards	£10.00

American Express Company does not accept liability for the use of the card in the U.K. and Ireland. Please read the conditions of use.

## New Interest Rates

Following the recommendation of The Building Societies Association all interest rates paid to investing members and personal depositors will be reduced by 0.75% from 1st April 1981, except for SAYE accounts where the rate remains unchanged. Holders of deposit accounts subject to basic rate tax will be individually advised.

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## UK NEWS

## London-Amsterdam air fare cut to £42

BY LYNTON McLAIN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH CALEDONIAN Airways will offer passengers its first cheap Mini-Prix off-peak air fares from Wednesday. The offer follows this week's decision by the Dutch Government to allow the airline to cut economy fares by a quarter, to a single fare of £42 between London and Amsterdam.

However, the Dutch refused to let BCal offer a £21 single stand-by fare on the route.

Bcal regards the Dutch decision as an advance in its efforts to win approval from 13 other Governments in Europe for its Mini-Prix plan launched in May, 1979.

The applications to these Governments involve 22 cities in Europe. BCal has only won approval from the British Civil Aviation Authority for its plans for nine of the 22 routes.

The airline operates on two of these nine routes to Paris and to Brussels but approval for Mini-Prix fares has not been received from the French and Belgian Governments.

Similarly, on the seven other routes the CAA has approved as suitable for Mini-Prix operations—to Vienna, Helsinki, Cologne/Bonn, Stuttgart, Hanover, Hamburg and Frankfurt—the other Governments involved here withheld approval.

Applications from BCal are being considered by the CAA for Mini-Prix flights to Stockholm, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Oslo, Barcelona, Marseilles, Madrid, Athens, Rome, Lisbon, Turin, Milan and Geneva.

Mini-Prix fares will be available on the London (Gatwick)-Amsterdam route on only one

of the six scheduled daily flights by BCal.

Passengers may travel for £42 single on the 2.45 pm flight from Gatwick and on the 1.45 pm return flight from Amsterdam only.

A different time-table applies at the weekend but passengers will be able to use only the off-peak flight.

Boeing has given formal permission for creation of a derivative of its 737 twin-jet airliner, to be called the 737-300.

The Boeing 737 is the corporation's most successful civil airliner. World airlines have purchased 902 such aircraft.

The 737-300 will have 121-149 seats and a 2,000-mile range. It was authorised after USAir of Washington DC and Southwest Airlines of Dallas this month

announced an "indicated intention to complete contract negotiations." These cover the purchase of 10 Boeing 737-300 airliners each, with options for a further 10 aircraft each. USAir is also negotiating for a further 20 options.

The aircraft will be ready for delivery in late 1984. It will be powered by two Franco-U.S. CFM56 engines, built by SNECMA of France and General Electric of the U.S.

Delta Airlines of the U.S. said in Atlanta yesterday that it had delivered specifications for a short-range twin jet with 150-seat capacity to Airbus Industrie, Lockheed, Boeing, Fokker and McDonnell Douglas, and for engine needs to Rolls-Royce, Pratt and Whitney and General Electric. Delta said it would be interested in buying

up to 100 of these aircraft.

British Airways is to abandon first-class services on all routes between London and 58 cities in Europe from tomorrow. Instead, BA will introduce the club and tourist class services the airline tried out on the London-to-Paris route a year ago.

That experiment resulted in an extra 72,000 passengers on the route and boosted revenue by £1.5m in its first full year.

Club class has a free bar, high quality meals and passengers have separate check-in facilities from those travelling tourist class.

In tourist class BA plans to offer lower fares with limited in-flight facilities, "to meet the growing demand for cheap, no-frills European travel."

## Shell and BP raise petrol and pre-tax heavy fuel oil prices

BY SUE CAMERON

SHELL and BP Oil are raising their pump petrol prices by 4p a gallon from midnight on Sunday and adding 5p a tonne to the pre-tax price of heavy fuel oil.

The increase in the pre-tax price of heavy fuel oil will increase many manufacturers' energy bills substantially. The average UK pre-tax fuel oil price of £103 a tonne compares favourably with the pre-tax Belgian price of £100 a tonne, with £101 in the Netherlands, £103 in France and £109 in Germany.

However British buyers have to pay 25 pence a tonne in heavy fuel oil tax—one of the highest levels of duty in Europe and more than twice the rate in West Germany.

This 25 pence a tonne duty is on top of the new pre-tax price of around £110 a tonne in the UK.

The increase of 5p a tonne in the wholesale price of heavy fuel oil—used chiefly by manufacturing industry to power its plants—represents a rise of 3p a gallon by Shell and BP Oil. On Wednesday Esso announced it was putting up its heavy fuel oil schedule prices by 3.7p a gallon.

Esso also raised its petrol prices by 3p a gallon and 24 hours later Mobil followed with a 2p increase at the pumps.

Shell and BP—unlike Esso—are cutting the price support they give their retailers as well as increasing their wholesale prices. Shell, which leads the

UK petrol market with Esso, is putting up its schedule petrol prices by 1.5p a gallon while cutting price support to dealers by 2.5p a gallon.

BP Oil is raising its schedule petrol prices by 1.7p a gallon and cutting support for dealers by 1.7p a gallon. VAT will then be added on. The new pump price for four star petrol at BP garages is expected to be between 154p and 155p a gallon.

Shell and BP are expected to continue giving substantial price support to their dealers although at a lower rate. Shell is believed to be giving many dealers about 6p a gallon in price support, and even more in areas where competition at the pumps is particularly fierce.

## British Steel subsidiary to sell Consett works

BY MAURICE SAMUELSON

MR. "MAC" MURRAY, the businessman who has been trying to take over the Consett works of Redpath Dorman Long, the British Steel Corporation's heavy engineering subsidiary, will make a formal offer next week for the plant. He claims that he can eventually create more than 500 jobs there.

This follows RDL's decision to put the 90,000 sq ft factory on to the open market at an asking price of £225,000.

Mr. Murray, and Mr. Stanley Bridges, a consulting engineer, have already held protracted talks with RDL and British Steel. The talks have broken down largely over Mr. Murray's claim that the deal should include some heavy equipment used for shaping tubular sections for offshore steel structures.

RDL's heavy rolling equipment has been transferred to Stockton where it is used in similar work to that which Mr. Murray plans to resume at Consett.

However, Mr. Murray and his associates claim they can start

work immediately at Consett with the existing equipment at the RDL yard on an order for a large engineering company, which would create 30 to 40 jobs.

According to Mr. Bridges, RDL had offered to let Mr. Murray's company have other redundant factories in the North-East, but Mr. Murray had particularly wanted to help solve the grave unemployment problem at Consett, where he lives.

Mr. Bridges also claims that when he first expressed interest in the Consett works, the heavy rolling equipment was still being used there.

They are also looking for various kinds of financial assistance from British Steel, the Industry Department and the EEC.

BSC confirmed yesterday that British Steel Service Centres, its chain of stockholding yards, had been turned into a limited company, making it the second largest steel stockholding group in the country.

## Gold futures market team reaffirms sterling plan

BY JOHN EDWARDS, COMMODITIES EDITOR

THE working party drawing up proposals for London gold futures market yesterday reaffirmed its recommendation that the contract should be in sterling not dollars.

Its decision follows a special meeting on Monday at Guildhall of members from the London Metal Exchange. The meeting was called in response to protests that the contract should be in dollars, the currency in which gold generally is traded worldwide.

No vote was taken at the

meeting and the working party merely promised to consider the views of those favouring a dollar contract. However, it has not been persuaded to change its mind.

Normally it would be expected that the working party recommendations would be accepted by members of the proposed market. The market is to be formed by the London bullion brokers who hold twice-daily price fixings and control physical trading in gold, and ring-dealing members of the London Metal Exchange.

## No help for energy users

BY IVOR OWEN

DEMANDS from both sides of the Commons for more help for energy intensive industries, going beyond the action taken in the Budget, met with a blank response from the Government in the Commons yesterday.

Mr. Norman Lamont, Under-Secretary for Energy, insisted that he could do no more than sound a "little note of optimism" about the trend in energy prices.

With a heavy emphasis on the need for caution, he suggested that the price rises which had followed in the wake of the soaring cost of oil "may be

slowing down somewhat." Tory and Labour MPs were clearly unimpressed by Mr. Lamont's claim that the steps already taken to help intensive energy users had not been fully appreciated.

Mr. Ted Rowlands, a Labour energy spokesman, dismissed the action taken in the Budget to ease industrial energy costs as too little and too late.

For many companies, he said, particularly those that were large energy users, the benefits which they had been led to expect from the Budget had proved entirely illusory.

## Nigerian wins debt claim

CHIEF Francis Arthur Nzeribe, a Nigerian businessman, was given judgment by consent in the High Court, London, yesterday for £235,000, including £10,000 agreed costs, against one of his executives.

Mr. Justice Milmo agreed that the judgment should not be enforced except in accordance with terms agreed between the parties.

Chief Nzeribe, chairman of Fanz Holdings, had sued Mr. Godfrey Williams, now of Foxley Lane, Purley, Surrey, the head of Fanz Civil Roads and Works, for the return of a £175,000 loan and interest from May, 1977.

Mr. Williams, a former senior official with the Rural Develop-

ment Agency for the State of Kano, Nigeria, had denied indebtedness.

When the hearing of the action began on Tuesday, Mr. Leslie Joseph, QC, for Chief Nzeribe, told the judge that Mr. Williams' allegation that the money was a bribe in return for securing a £4m Government contract for the construction of 300 water-wells in the desert for the Fanz empire was denied by Chief Nzeribe.

The money, said counsel, was a loan repayable in 24 monthly instalments.

Fanz Holdings has interests in major construction works, transport, education, computers, oil and petrochemicals, scientific equipment, and engineering.

## Talks begin on Brazilian reinsurance claims

REPRESENTATIVES of the Instituto de Resseguros do Brasil, the Brazilian reinsurance Institute, and Lloyd's of London are trying to settle outstanding reinsurance claims made against the Brazilian group by members of the Sasse syndicate.

The Brazilian group's original resistance to reinsurance claims made against it by 110 members of the syndicate, and subsequent legal action by the syndicate three years ago, prompted an examination of the syndicate's affairs by Lloyd's.

A range of irregularities were uncovered by the Lloyd's authorities. The Fraud Squad were called in to investigate when fire and damage to property insurance business was placed with the syndicate.

Losses rose to more than £21.5m on the syndicate, including losses on computer leasing insurance business and entertainment and leisure insurance.

Lloyd's offered to help Sasse members last July by limiting the syndicate's losses to £6.25m. The remainder of the losses were met through the market.

Until the Lloyd's offer, the syndicate was suing Lloyd's for breach of duties.

In the subsequent settlement Lloyd's took over the syndicate's action against the Brazilians. The syndicate is seeking to recover £13m in reinsurance claims.

So far the Brazilians have offered £6.35m. This was rejected last August by Additional Underwriting Agencies (No. 2), the Lloyd's company looking after the affairs of the syndicate.

## Hospital plan vetoed

PLANS by the Grosvenor Estate to restore St. George's Hospital at London's Hyde Park Corner and to build a £50m office scheme behind it have run into opposition from Westminster City Council.

Grosvenor Estate announced in January that it intended to spend £5m on modernising the disused St. George's Hospital complex and a 204,000 sq ft office scheme.

The proposals include the transformation of the old hospital into an exhibition centre, The Location of Industry Bureau, a private organisation which helps local authorities promote industry in their areas, has been lined up to occupy the centre.

The union said the handling of new and replacement Access cards will be slowed down and it would take longer for retailers to join the scheme.

Barclays Bank, whose computer centres at Gloucester and Wythenshawe were hit by a 24-hour strike last night, said that half the staff in the centres were working over that period.

The bank said it had completed all updating of customers' accounts at the centres, but these statistics had not left the centres during the strike period and would therefore be delayed in arriving at branches.

Cash dispensing machines were working, said the bank but there had been disruption to its cheque clearing.

The union said the strike had been a complete success and challenged the bank's 50 per cent figure. Mr. Leif Mills, the union's general secretary said the strike had had the intended effect and the backlog of paper work would take two to three days to clear up.

A number of TUC affiliated unions, including the Transport and General Workers Union

## Motor-bike surge

SALES OF motorcycles, scooters and mopeds have risen as buyers have sought to beat the April 1 deadline after which an extra sales tax which will raise prices by nearly 8 per cent.

Since the announcement of the tax in the March Budget, nearly 12,000 vehicles have been sold, 38 per cent more than in the same period last year.

## Royal wedding coin

A SPECIAL crown piece is to be minted to celebrate the July 29 wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, said in a Commons written reply yesterday that there would be three versions of the coin, one in cupro-nickel, another in cupro-nickel presentation pack and the third in sterling silver.

## Savings rate down

FROM MAY 1 the interest rate on deposits in the National Savings Bank investment account will be cut from 15 per cent to 13 per cent.

This reduction, fore-shadowed in the Budget, was announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr. Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

## Record Reynolds

A PORTRAIT of the Hon. George Seymour Conway, painted in 1770 by Sir Joshua Reynolds, sold for £110,000 at Christie's yesterday to the London dealer Mallett.

## Heathrow airport disruption planned by immigration staff

BY PHILIP BASSETT, LABOUR STAFF

HEATHROW AIRPORT, London, faces disruption today for the second time in three weeks because of immigration staff participating in industrial action in the Civil Service pay dispute.

The Council of Civil Service Unions yesterday confirmed Heathrow to be the target for weekend action. Immigration officers will provide only a skeleton staff in the airport's No. 2 and No. 3 terminals. This will delay departures, particularly at peak periods.

The council said large numbers of civil servants across the country came out on strike yesterday in protest at the threatened suspension of 29 Customs and Excise staff who have been refusing to perform work normally done at the Department's strike-bound computer centre at Southend.

The unions said they had received reports of walkouts, mainly in the afternoon, of about 75,000 staff. However, officials said this figure taken with action in areas for which they had no clear figures could mean as many as 100,000 officials had walked out.

The work of several Departments was affected. Two Departments probably hit the worst, the Inland Revenue and Customs itself, acknowledged the outbreaks of local action. Customs said that 23 of the 29 staff who were threatened

with suspension from 2 pm yesterday had now given assurances they would work normally.

The other six were called out on indefinite strike by the unions to avert the suspensions. The council said the action would close the Customs clearance computer for all imported cargo.

It said this would affect the collection of deferred duty on imports. The council said collection of betting, oil and tobacco duty in the North West would be hit.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was booed and jeered at by civil servants during his visit to the Royal Mint, South Wales.

He told protesters there was a limit to what the Government could afford to pay out of taxpayers' money to meet the union's 15 per cent claim. The Government has offered 7 per cent.

Some union officials pointed to a statement by the Prime Minister in the Commons on Thursday as being an indication of the effectiveness of the industrial action, aimed at disrupting Government cash-flow.

Mrs. Thatcher told MPs that if because of the strikes the Government could not collect all the money it required it would have to increase state borrowing, which short-term could have quite damaging consequences for the rest of industry.

## Credit card staff to start work to rule

BY NICK GARNETT, LABOUR STAFF

COMPUTER DATA staff at the Joint Credit Card Company, which controls the clearing banks' Access card operations were instructed yesterday by the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union to begin a work to rule and policy of non-cooperation from Monday.

The decision, which followed a short strike yesterday, is over a local grading dispute but has now become involved with the industrial action over the clearing banks' national pay negotiations.

The union said the handling of new and replacement Access cards will be slowed down and it would take longer for retailers to join the scheme.

Barclays Bank, whose computer centres at Gloucester and Wythenshawe were hit by a 24-hour strike last night, said that half the staff in the centres were working over that period.

The bank said it had completed all updating of customers' accounts at the centres, but these statistics had not left the centres during the strike period and would therefore be delayed in arriving at branches.

Cash dispensing machines were working, said the bank but there had been disruption to its cheque clearing.

The union said the strike had been a complete success and challenged the bank's 50 per cent figure. Mr. Leif Mills, the union's general secretary said the strike had had the intended effect and the backlog of paper work would take two to three days to clear up.

A number of TUC affiliated unions, including the Transport and General Workers Union

and the postmen's union had agreed not to cross picket lines, BIFU said.

The ability of the union to deliver decisive industrial action will almost certainly depend now on its success in getting out its messengers and its members in the bank's cash centres.

The banks are very vulnerable in these areas in which the union is currently balloting staff. The results of those ballots could be a clear pointer to whether the union can move the banks on their final 10 per cent offer.

Both BIFU and the Clearing Bank Union (CBU) have been seeking rises closer to the Retail Price Index. In the ballot which the CBU is carrying out, the union's technical and services staff will be separated from clerical staff to produce two ballot results.

Mr. Jack Britz, CBU general secretary, said yesterday he did not believe there would be a significant difference in the response of the two groups.

The feeling among CBU officials still appears to be that the pay offer will be accepted in the ballot.

Norwich Union Insurance has made a "final" pay offer of 11.5 per cent to 9,000 clerical staff. The half per cent is compensation for stricter rules about cheap mortgages for staff.

The main union, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said the offer was not acceptable. It has achieved settlements of 12½ per cent to 15 per cent in other insurance companies during the current wage round.

## North Sea divers to vote on union membership

ONE OF the largest diving companies operating in the North Sea has agreed to hold a ballot on union membership among its offshore divers.

Comex Houlder will be the first diving contractor to hold a ballot as a result of the two-year drive for membership of North Sea divers conducted by the National Union of Seamen.

The company suggested the ballot to resolve conflicting claims about the level of recruitment. The union claims up to 75 per cent recruitment, the company 35 to 40 per cent.

If the ballot reflects union claims it will be a significant breakthrough for the trade union movement in the North Sea among a workforce which is highly mobile and traditionally seen as too aggressively independent for collective organisation.

To date the seamen's union has recruited nearly 400 divers

in 21 companies, mostly operating in the North Sea but also some in the Middle East.

Comex has suggested that the ballot be held in June or July at the height of the diving season. The union, fearful of being swamped by new employees who are not union members, is holding out for an earlier ballot in May.

Yesterday Mr. Warren Duncan, Aberdeen NUS North Sea official, claimed the ballot was a breakthrough, pointing out that the company was the first to agree to this type of exercise. "I am confident about the outcome of the poll," he said.

The union is claiming 114 divers out of a total of 129 employed by the company. There was no comment yesterday from the company, a joint venture between Comex Diving of Marseilles and Houlder Off-

shore.

## Sugar plant rescue fails

THE CAMPAIGN to save the Tate and Lyle sugar refinery at Liverpool and 1,560 jobs was called off yesterday when workers voted overwhelmingly to accept the recommendation of shop stewards.

It followed talks in London on Wednesday when the company told Mr. David Bassett, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, there could be no reprieve. The unions will now campaign for

improved redundancy terms, and better pensions and holiday entitlement.

The management hopes to close the plant next weekend, but redundancy pay will continue for the final three weeks of the 90-day period. The shutdown brings the number of job losses on Merseyside this year to nearly 6,000. The future of the loss-making refinery had been in doubt for eight years but the decision to close it was not made until January.

## Courtaulds to cut 380 more jobs

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

A FURTHER 380 workers are to be made redundant at Courtaulds' Greenfield plant in North Wales from July 1. The move comes in the wake of a decision to postpone a £9m investment programme at the plant because of the recession in textiles.

Greenfield manufactures viscose staple, a cotton-type fibre made from wood pulp. The project was begun at a time when demand was rising, particularly from Asia. It was intended to give Courtaulds increased output.

A local trade union leader said some redundancies had been anticipated, but the number announced was twice that expected.

Last month, Courtaulds announced it was pulling out of the nylon yarn business altogether, with the loss of 1,908 jobs in England and Northern Ireland. That brought total Courtaulds job losses in

the past two years to about 15,000.

Staveley Industries, the engineering group, is to close its third factory since the beginning of the year, with the loss of 350 jobs.

The Asquith machine tool plant at Halifax, Yorks., makes large drilling and boring machines for use in production of turbine casings, ships' diesel engines and tanks. The effect of the closure may be mitigated by negotiations to sell off to senior management some of the less capital intensive side of the business.

TI Raleigh, part of the Tube Investments group, plans to close a bicycle factory in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, with the loss of over 200 jobs because of the slump in cycle sales over recent months.

However, the company, Britain's main cycle manufacturer, is investigating the possibility instead of cutting opera-

tions by more than half with a loss of over 100 jobs.

Allied Bakeries is to close its Sunblest bakery in Norwich on May 2, with the loss of 150 jobs. A further 130 workers, mainly office staff, will be transferred to a more modern group bakery in Norwich, called the Beta-bake.

Silent Channel Products, which makes rubber mouldings for doors and windows used in the motor trade, is to make 140 workers redundant at its Huntingdon factory. The company blamed the motor industry recession.

Stoke-on-Trent city council's decision to cut 122 jobs in the works department will create only 50 enforced redundancies, since 72 men have accepted voluntary retirement and others may follow.

The Milk Marketing Board has closed the Seamans Dairy in Knightsvale Road, Ipswich, with the loss of 64 jobs.

## House prices 'to increase sharply'

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

HOUSE PRICES could be rising sharply by the end of the year, according to the Nationwide Building Society.

Sir Herbert Ashworth, chairman of Nationwide, told the society's annual meeting in London yesterday that there were signs that the housing market was becoming more active, although there were noticeable regional differences.

First-time buyers were a source of strong demand. The prospect of lower interest rates would raise confidence and

stimulate demand. "Consequently, 1981 could turn out to be a much better year for the housing market than many now expect. Towards the end of the year and in 1982 it is possible that house prices will be rising again quite sharply," said Sir Herbert.

His views came in the wake of evidence that demand from purchasers in the private sector has picked up significantly since the start of the year, so much so that many housebuilders are revising upwards their 1981 construction programme.

Estate agents also report a growing number of transactions. The impact of such transactions on prices is being partially offset by more properties being brought on to the spring market.

In spite of the increase in activity, few people suggest that substantial price rises can be expected because of the large backlog of unsold properties and the outlook for real incomes.

The most common projection is for average increases of about 10 per cent this year, repeating last year's pattern.

## Armalite directors not in contempt

BY RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT

FOR THE second time in four weeks an unsuccessful attempt was made to have two directors of Armalite jailed for alleged contempt of court.

In the High Court yesterday Mr. Ian Leaf and Mr. John Leppard, respectively the company's chairman and managing director, were alleged to have broken an undertaking given to the court.

A jailing order was sought by Night Vision Systems which shares North London premises with Armalite, the lease on the premises being held by NVS.

Both companies were associated with Alcom until Armalite

was sold to Rapport International (Finance) last November.

Mr. Justice Lawson said that after the sale another Rapport company, Rapport Engineering, moved staff into the premises.

That had been a breach of the lease, which was jeopardised. NVS began legal proceedings. However, when Armalite undertook that no one other than itself would share the premises with NVS



## THE WEEK IN THE MARKETS

## Industrials back in the limelight

Perhaps it was the first hint of spring or maybe it was a touch of infectious enthusiasm drifting across the Atlantic from Wall Street; whatever the case, the stock market was in euphoric mood in the second leg of the two week account and enthusiasm only started to moderate yesterday as prices ran into a slight dose of profit taking.

LONDON  
ONLOOKER

ments with a rise of 81 per cent — problems in the special steels sector notwithstanding.

## Labours of Lucas

There were no prizes for guessing that Lucas' interim profits would be very poor. Yet even though the first half deficit of £27.5m was probably worse than the gloomiest projections, the share price was blithely motoring upwards at the end of the week.

This optimism serves to underscore the market's willingness to accept almost any level of loss, redundancies and dividend cuts provided it can see some prospect of recovery.

Whereas GKN was giving no hostages to fortune a week ago about its immediate outlook, Lucas is at least sounding rather more sanguine. Yes, the second half will be better, the motor component giant was saying although it did warn that any swing back into profit will not be sufficient to cover first half losses.

It can point to an encouraging performance from its aerospace division, plagued for so long by labour problems but now responding well to reorganisation, the growing maturity of the Tornado programme and

good orders from civilian airframe builders. The aerospace contribution climbed by almost £5m to £6.9m on a turnover increase of 60 per cent.

But recovery hopes still rest almost entirely on the automotive replacement part market. All the UK-based vehicle equipment subsidiaries were in the red during the first half and volume was down by 29 per cent. There has been no pick up yet since the January 31 year end but the de-stocking by distributors does appear to be ending.

Some analysts calculate that component distributors are 40 per cent understocked at present but demand should be set to rise if the second quarter of the calendar year follows the usual pattern of relative seasonal strength. There is the potential stimulus, too, from the commercial vehicles sector which has seen much cannibalisation of parts from off the road trucks.

Original equipment forecasts are very much less optimistic but Lucas has reduced costs substantially and the spin-offs from the replacement market could have a useful impact on a highly volume-sensitive industry.

## Household claims

No one was expecting anything but poor results from the insurance groups for 1980, but even so those of Eagle Star and Prudential confounded the most

pessimistic. In both cases adverse UK business had much to do with the results.

The recession in the UK is hitting liability business as claims race ahead of premiums. Eagle Star, a leader in this field, saw the cost of employers' liability claims jump 40 per cent and liability losses slump from £2.6m to £13.1m. Despite a £10m transfer from its catastrophe reserve, underwriting losses almost doubled to £32.5m and pre-tax profits barely moved ahead to £55.9m even though investment income rose by one-quarter to £73.8m.

The Pru's problems were twofold. Its international reinsurance operations through Mercantile and General reflected the overall weakness of the market and losses tripled to £12.4m. Its UK household account recorded heavier losses, the corrective measures on contents business being counterproductive for higher premiums merely resulted in even higher claims. The general account had a trading loss, with investment income being swallowed up by the underwriting losses.

The Pru's saving grace was the steady improvement in life business with shareholders getting a one-fifth rise in profits. Even so, overall net profits declined 7 per cent to £42.5m.

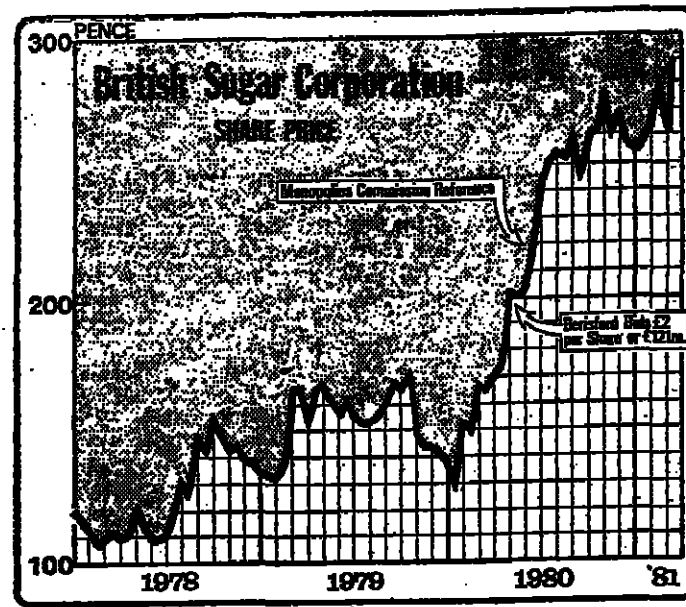
The outlook for 1981 for both companies is not promising. The liability account is not going to improve until the UK starts pulling out of the recession. The reinsurance market is likely to remain weak. Little advance on profits is expected. But shareholders still receive a 15 per cent lift in dividends from the Pru and even more from Eagle Star.

## Payment deferred

This week saw yet another chapter in the Great British Oil Success Story as London and Scottish Marine Oil (LASMO) produced more than doubled pre-tax profits to £47.28m for the year against £23.4m last time.

This news, plus the announcement of successful drilling on the T-Block, helped the shares to rise 15p on Tuesday to reach 620p. But end-of-account selling brought the LASMO price right back to 580p yesterday, a performance reflected elsewhere in the currently lacklustre oil sector.

One reason why some shareholders may not have been enamoured of LASMO was the decision not to pay a first-ever dividend until the 1981 interim period. Some analysts suggested that the group was being



something of a dilettante in lingering another six months before joining the dividend list.

But the business is still sound. Tuesday's figures showed a 47 per cent increase in output from the important Ninian Field in which LASMO now holds a 9.3 per cent stake and production is expected to average above 300,000 barrels a day during the current year.

The future looks reasonable since the group will drill in other areas to make up for the declining bell curve of Ninian production. The Seventh Round of licences was encouraging for LASMO too, yielding acreage for the 1980s.

New North Sea taxes will bite into LASMO earnings and this could be another reason why the shares ended the week 40p below Tuesday's evening's price. But the former hedging is now growing up and the North Sea remains its main attraction.

## Sugar conditions

The Government's merger policies are about as muddy as they ever were but at least, after nine months' deliberation, the Monopolies Commission has given commodity trader, S. and W. Berisford, an outline of the conditions it must accept if it wants to bid for the British Sugar Corporation.

British Sugar was poised to resist stoutly when Berisford first unveiled an offer worth £120m in May last year but it seems likely the commodity group decides to pitch again behind substantially higher walls.

The months since the Monopolies Commission reference last June have given British Sugar plenty of time to improve its profits outlook; it has used the interval wisely. In the year to September, 1979, it produced £32.4m pre-tax but was struggling in the following year

to keep profits above £30m. It now seems probable that it should be able to forecast something over £40m this year and its stock market standing has risen accordingly. Against the first mooted terms of 201p per share in cash and shares, British Sugar was not far short of 300p at the end of last week.

If it does go ahead, Berisford will be asked to give an undertaking that it will withdraw from merchandising the products from British Sugar's major sugar manufacturing rival, Tate and Lyle. British Sugar, moreover, must produce its accounts separately. The prospective bidder now says that it worked out what it hopes is an acceptable form of words to meet these conditions and the Consumer Affairs Minister, Mrs. Sally Oppenheim, is expected to give her verdict on these undertakings next week.

## Hazy summer days

Shareholders of Imperial Group must be hoping for a hot and thirst-inducing summer this year after the dismal news about first half trading at the annual meeting. The new chairman of the tobacco, brewing and food group, Mr. Malcolm Anson, made it clear that the extra budget duties on drinks and tobacco would help pinch pennies for the six months to April 30 "very substantially below" those for the same period of last year.

Since most of Imps' activities are geared to some extent to the summer months, good weather could lift some of the financial gloom. Mr. Anson was at least confident that the second half results would be well up on those in the first six months. In 1979-80, Imps made a pre-tax profit of £127m, nearly 11 per cent lower than the year before. The first half figure was marginally higher at £68.5m.

## Week of the Greek

## NEW YORK

PAUL BETTS

IF ARCHIMEDES had sat in his bath in the middle of the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange this week, he would have thrown his arms in the air screaming "Pareto!" or "I give up," while a chorus of excited traders ran around him in a state of unpeakable euphoria shouting "eureka!"

It has been a most remarkable week for Wall Street. On Monday, the Dow Jones Industrial average broke the 1,000 mark, then slipped back the next day but on Wednesday gathered up an tremendous momentum in late trading to shoot up to its highest level in more than eight years, and while slipping a bit on Thursday still held the 1,000 level.

Many dealers were ecstatic. Many, however, admitted it was difficult to give any rational explanation for the sudden burst in the index. Some claimed it was because short term rates were continuing to slide.

But then, these interest rates started turning in the middle of the week and many analysts were suggesting they were bottoming out. Others attributed the hectic mood of the market to the recent takeover fever with a spurge of megabids piling one upon another in the U.S. and in the Canadian market.

As one happy dealer with the Wall Street firm of Oppenheimer remarked: "What the market is saying is that there is a basic undervaluation of America," meaning that most stocks were a steal at current prices.

But to archimedes of the market were a little more cautious. They suggested that a rally based purely on the recent rash of takeovers was not that healthy a phenomenon. Instead, it reflected the general nervousness of the market with investors rushing in to make a fast buck and then pulling out with indecent speed. After all, by Thursday, the Dow was losing ground as the situation in Poland cast long shadows on the market and worries about what the Federal Reserve was up to in its market intervention took some of the heat out of the recent rally.

Indeed, one dealer with the Wall Street firm of Bache, itself the target of a large takeover by the Prudential Insurance Company of America, said all the excitement over the Dow going over the 1,000 level was "irrational" and "distorted the market."

Then doubts are beginning to creep in on the outcome of the latest gargantuan serving of takeover bids. St. Joe Minerals and Seagram were slugging it out in the courts all week with Seagram, seemingly winning the

first round in its \$2bn bid for the minerals and metals company. But St. Joe has come up with an eccentric series of proposals to block the Canadian drinks group, puzzling shareholders, judges and the market to such an extent that the SEC decided to suspend trading in St. Joe shares for ten days to clear the air.

As for the other giant bid by Standard Oil of California for Amstar, the California oil group has remained unflinchingly silent and the market cannot figure out whether it plans to pull out—as it did two years ago when it tried to take over Amstar—or come back with a bigger offer.

There was also trouble on the Bache-Prudential deal. Last week, it seemed the \$885m transaction was in the bag. But late this week, the wealthy Belberg family of Canada said it had not yet decided to sell its 22.4 per cent stake in the Wall Street investment firm and was considering other options.

In spite of uncertainty on the takeover front which prompted speculators to sell and cash their chips in while they were good, the uncertainty over interest rates and the general economic outlook, the market has taken some comfort from the sudden renaissance of "old timers" like the steel companies, the retailers and other blue chips.

In the past month, U.S. Steel has seen its shares gain more than 22 per cent and so has Bethlehem Steel. Sears-Roebuck, long forgotten by the market, has bounced back with its shares gaining 20 per cent during the last month. Other unexpected stars have been American Can with a gain of 26.7 per cent in a month, Woolworth up 18.4 per cent and Inco up 18.7 per cent.

"When these types of stocks move up, that is encouraging for the market," a dealer said this week. But he added: "What is discouraging is that whenever something gains a bit, people start selling. Look at the oil. They were largely responsible for the latest buying spree but equally responsible for the subsequent selling spree. And that is not much to shout 'Eureka' about."

Monday	1,004.23	+11.43
Tuesday	996.13	-8.10
Wednesday	1,015.25	+19.09
Thursday	1,005.70	-9.46

## MARKET HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

	Price y/day	Change on week	1980-81 High	1980-81 Low	
F.T. Ind. Ord. Index	521.3	+20.4	521.3	446.0	Economic recovery hopes
F.T. Gold Mines Index	370.1	+25.0	421.1	281.4	Polish situation lifts gold
Associated Newspapers	290	+42	293	234	Investment support
Bell (Arthur)	178	+20	180	152	Int. results & scrip issue
Berkeley Hambro	246	+33	248	203	Increased net asset value
Bestobell	420	+58	420	272	Annual results/bid speculation
Blue Circle	420	+28	420	326	Inv. demand/stock shortage
Bowater	239	+27	242	171	Sale of Rail/roads due soon
British Sugar	292	+30	300	243	M.C. go-ahead for Berisford bid
Church	182	+25	182	154	Good annual results
Eagle Star	233	-25	261	229	Disappointing annual results
Lane (Percy)	41	+11	43	21	Excellent results/scrip issue
Lucas Inds.	182	+18	197	159	Int. div. held despite big loss
Paragon Mining	64	-7	64	42	Bid approach from Hampton Areas
Prudential	236	-19	257	209	Disappointing annual results
Ricardo	492	-82	590	460	Interim profits disappoint
Sainsbury (J.)	396	+28	402	330	Revived investment demand
Wearwell	86	+13	88	60	Talk of broker's circular
Willsons Warburton	75	+14	76	47	Good annual results
Wood Hall Trust	153	+24	153	86	Bid speculation

## Vanbrugh launch an important new pension fund investing in...

### 2 percent INDEX-LINKED TREASURY STOCK, 1996

In response to one of the good pieces of news in the recent Budget, Vanbrugh Pensions have created a new fund which will invest solely in the Treasury's new Index-Linked Stock.

This gilt-edged government security, introduced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, is restricted to pension funds and offers access to an investment related directly to future rates of inflation.

Against the background of a rise in retail prices of over 350% in the last 15 years, we felt that this security should be made available immediately to self-employed investors in the Vanbrugh Flexible Retirement Plan.

This important new fund marks yet another step forward made by Vanbrugh in the field of self-employed pension planning.

#### The Loanback Facility —another Vanbrugh plus

Until recently all self-employed pension plans have suffered from one major drawback — contributions having to remain locked up and inaccessible until retirement.

Vanbrugh recently resolved this problem through a totally unique loanback facility — incorporated into our Flexible Retirement Plan.

This means that for the first time self-employed pension contributors can borrow back a sum equivalent to their accumulated investments, securing the loan on property, equities or gilts.

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41/43 Maddox Street, London W1R 9LA  
Telephone 01-499 4923

Please tell me all about the Vanbrugh Pensions Index Linked Gilt Fund with Loanback Facility.

NAME

PROFESSION

ADDRESS

## MINING

GEORGE MILLING-STANLEY

Rustenburg's net profits were just 9.3 per cent higher than for the comparable period of the previous year at R28.3m (£35m), and the interim dividend is an unchanged 12.5 cents (7p).

The only aspect of the results to cause any raising of eyebrows came in comparison with those of South Africa's other leading producer, Impala Platinum, part of the Genecor group. Around the middle of last month, Impala reported a 24 per cent rise in net profits for the first half of its financial year to R53.56m.

The only obvious difference between the two sets of results lay in the fact that Impala's six-month accounting period had ended two months before that of Rustenburg, but an examination of price movements shows that the all-important producer price, at which something like 90 per cent of the total amount of platinum traded changes hands, was in fact higher during the period covered by Rustenburg's report.

The producers, who sell the bulk of their output at the posted producer price, last raised this in August, 1980. Thus Impala's figures covered a two-month period during which it sold its platinum at \$420 (£187) an ounce, and four months at the current price of \$475 an ounce, while Rustenburg had the benefit of the higher price for the full six months.

Rustenburg helped to solve the mystery of its slower rate of increase in profits by saying

that the benefits of the price rise were eroded by increased working costs—notably higher wages—and the effects on revenue of the appreciation of the South African rand against the U.S. dollar, in which platinum prices are denominated.

In addition, Rustenburg uses much more conservative accounting policies than many other companies in the mining industry. These have strengthened the balance sheet at the expense of the profit and loss account.

For example, the company takes the tax relief on its capital expenditure direct to the balance sheet, adopts a depreciation policy much in line with a conventional industrial company, and uses a very conservative valuation method for the other platinum group metals it produces, palladium, rhodium and iridium.

Despite the divergence in profits performance over the first half of the year, the two companies are agreed on one thing; the second half is going to be even more difficult.

Impala's chairman, Mr. Ted Pavitt, warned last month that at the current producer price, profits in the second half are unlikely to equal those for the first six months. Results are likely to be adversely affected by increased costs, a somewhat lower volume of sales and the present weakness in the prices of many of the metals which Impala produces as co-products of its platinum.

Mr. Gordon Waddell, the new chairman of Rustenburg, followed that with the warning that second-half profits are likely to be "materially lower" than for the first six months, reflecting the continuing high level of operating costs and the anticipated weakness in the markets for palladium and rhodium.

Rustenburg's profits will also be hit by the adoption by Matthey Rustenburg Refiners—owned jointly by Rustenburg and Johnson Matthey—of a new accounting policy of depreciating assets over a four-year period, rather than over 10 years, as has been the practice.

This is another move towards greater conservatism in account-

ing, and of course the cash position will benefit.

One thing which could help both companies is the recent proposal by the Reagan Administration in the U.S. to increase the country's stockpiles of strategic materials. A Bill currently before Congress proposes the setting aside of funds for this purpose, and suggests the allocation of \$95m for the purchase of platinum.

At the current price, this would buy 200,000 ounces,

equivalent to something like three months' production from either company.

In the longer term, the pick-up in world economic activity, widely expected towards the end of the current calendar year, should lead to increased demand from the traditional customers for platinum. And if inflation continues to prove difficult to reduce significantly, there is always the possibility of a resurgence of interest in the metal as an investment medium.

## TIN OUTPUTS COMPARED

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Total to date (months)	Same period previous year	
	tonnes	tonnes	(tonnes)	tonnes	
Amal. of Nigeria (tin)	1	196	1,338	(10)	1,423
Amal. of Nigeria (columbite)	1	25	188	(10)	173
Aokam	107	109	809	(8)	1,239
Ayer Eitam	93	112	928	(8)	1,267
Berjantai	243	201	2,505	(10)	2,261
Bislich Jantar (tin)	1	1	1,999	(9)	219
Bislich Jantar (columbite)	1	1	2,000	(9)	263
CRIM Sri Timal	424	55	974	(2)	1,761
Geveert	142	110	1,105	(11)	979
Gold and Base (tin)	18	17	35	(2)	81
Gopeng	1234	1264	638	(5)	826
Idris	71	54	134	(2)	374
Kamunting	11	14	49	(11)	417
Kinta Kelas	33	424	360	(11)	4074
Kuala Kampar	16	20	230	(11)	254
Malayan	550	604	1,838	(8)	2,325
Pahang	90	96	745	(7)	826
Penakalan	—	—	23	(5)	763
Pekalongan	100	754	343	(4)	558
Rahman	104	121	835	(8)	558
St. Piran—Far East	13	7	139	(11)	167
St. Piran—UK (South Coast)	264	305	1,903	(11)	1,827
St. Piran—Thailand	32	305	1,903	(11)	902
Sungai Beal	106	114	1,272	(11)	1,043
Tanjong	124	164	284	(2)	324
Tongkah Harbour	54	96	362	(8)	234

Figures include low-grade material. †Not yet available. Outputs are shown in metric tonnes of tin concentrates.

## UNIT TRUST AND INSURANCE OFFERS

Save and Prosper Group Limited	Page
Vanbrugh Life Limited	1
Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited	4
Tyndall Managers Limited	6
Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited	6
Pioneer Mutual Insurance Company Limited	7
	15

Deposits of £1,000-£50,000 accepted for fixed terms of 3-10 years. Interest paid gross, half-yearly. Rates for deposits received not later than 17.4.81 are fixed for the terms shown:

Term (years)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Interest %	12 1/4	12 1/2	13	13 1/4	13 1/2	13 3/4	13 3/4	13 3/4

Deposits to and further information from the Treasury, Branch for Industry Limited, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8JZ. Tel: 01-323 7822. Bk. 3674. Cheques payable to "Bank of England, ex FRT. Finance for Industry Limited"

Today's Rates 12 1/4% - 13 3/4%

Remember there is now no earnings 'ceiling' on contributions to self-employed pension plans. Full tax relief is available up to 17 1/2% of annual earnings.

**Vanbrugh**  
MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRIAL GROUP

هكذا نحن الناجحون



# Telling people where to invest is as important to us as telling people where to go.

We've been telling people where to go for some time now, and there's no doubt that the message is getting through.

Last year, the volume of tourism in England was up 10% on the year before.

Of course, we don't claim all the credit for this, but we know for sure that we played an important part.

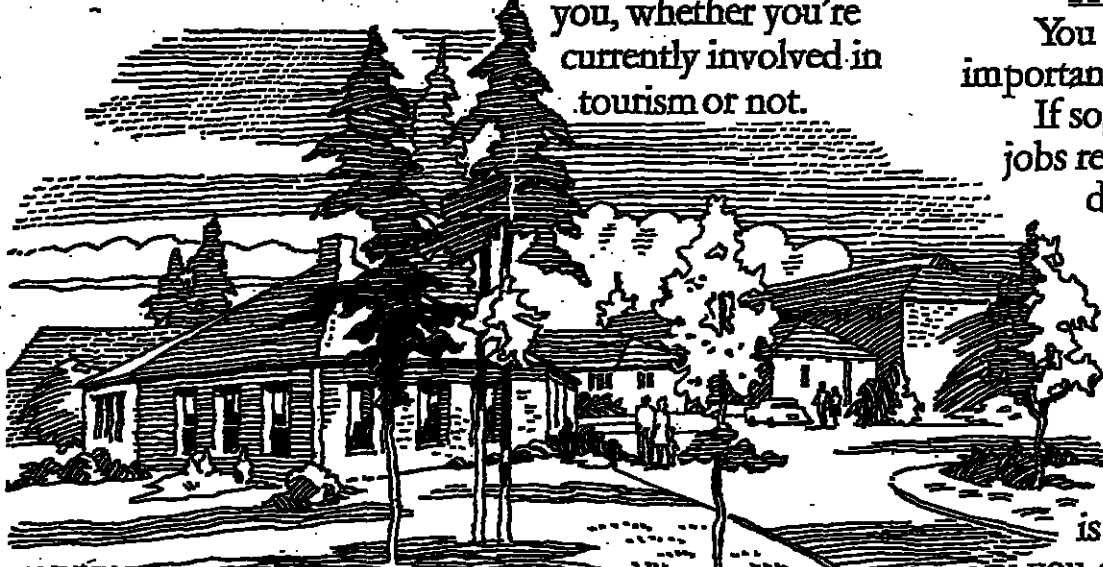
If you live in the south of England you'll probably have seen our TV commercials featuring Spike Milligan.

The campaign is now in its second year, and all the evidence shows that it's highly cost-effective.

But there's much more to the ETB than TV advertising.

To businesses wishing to invest in tourism in England, we can offer anything from a useful contact to help in raising the finance.

Read on and find out how we may be able to help you, whether you're currently involved in tourism or not.



Swallow Hotel, Derbyshire.

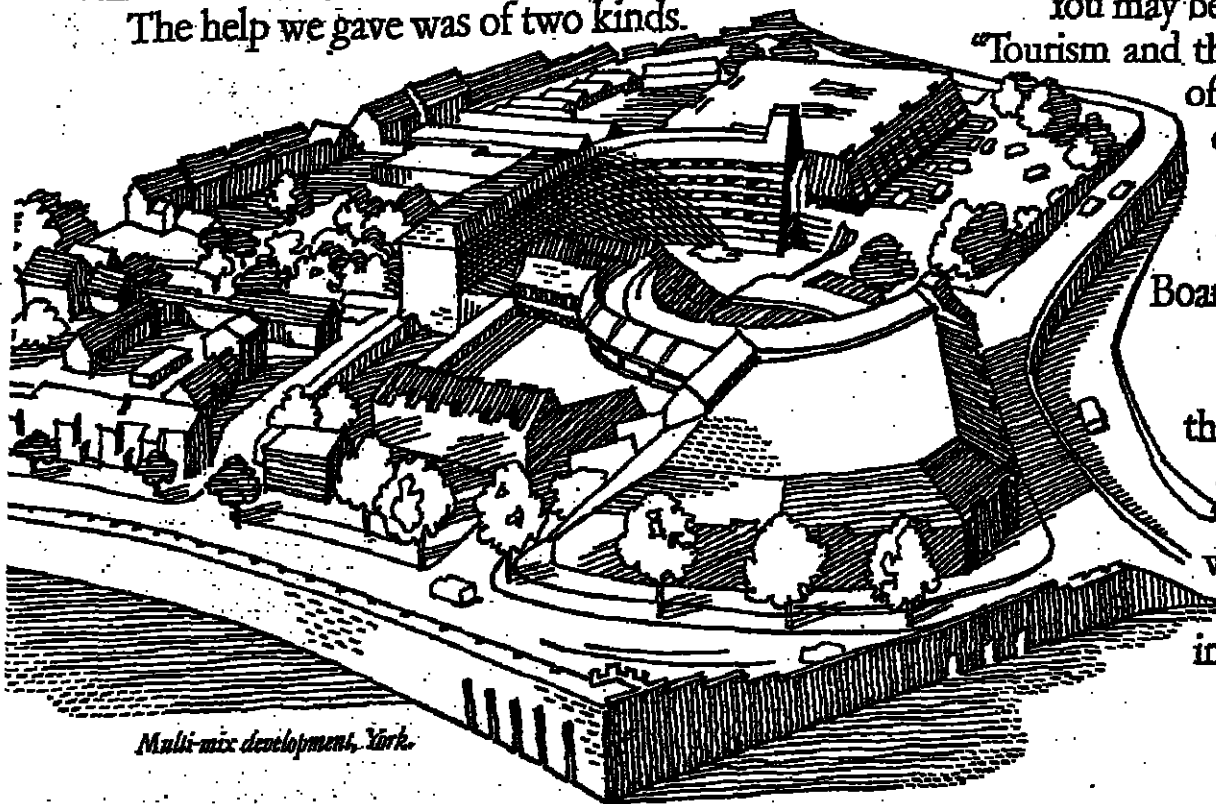
## A Simple Example.

Let's start with a simple example.

This spring, a new 123-bedroom hotel will be opened at South Normanton in Derbyshire, near Junction 28 of the M1.

This hotel will benefit the local community just as much as the holiday or business tourist, and it wouldn't have happened without help from the English Tourist Board.

The help we gave was of two kinds.



Multi-mix development, York.

First, we found out that a prime hotel site was on the market, and informed Swallow Hotels.

Second, as the site is in an Assisted Area, we were able to give the developers a grant, which in turn enabled them to start work on the hotel straight away.

## A Complicated Example.

Now for something rather more complicated: a major multi-mix development in York, comprising a superstore, private housing, a 220-bedroom hotel, a health centre and a particularly well-equipped rackets club with full facilities for international competitions.

Financing a development like this might seem an insuperable problem in these difficult times.

So, working closely with the developer, we are putting together a financial package acceptable to institutional and other sources of finance.

## How we helped 10,000 Merseysiders.

You may not think of Liverpool as an important tourist area.

If so, the 10,000 Merseysiders whose jobs relate directly to tourism would disagree with you.

Here, the ETB is involved in supporting Merseyside County Council in developing probably the most exciting post-war Maritime Museum in the Country.

Stage one of the Maritime Museum is now completed. For the first time in years, you can walk from the Pierhead into the historic South Docks area.

There you can see the exhibits on display, and look beyond towards the magnificent Albert Dock warehouses.

We believe the Maritime Museum when completed will be a catalyst for attracting activity and investment into an area crying out for new jobs.

And without our encouragement and a grant towards building costs, it might never have been started.

You may be interested to read the ETB publication "Tourism and the Inner City," which describes some of the tourism initiatives being taken in our older "inner city" areas.

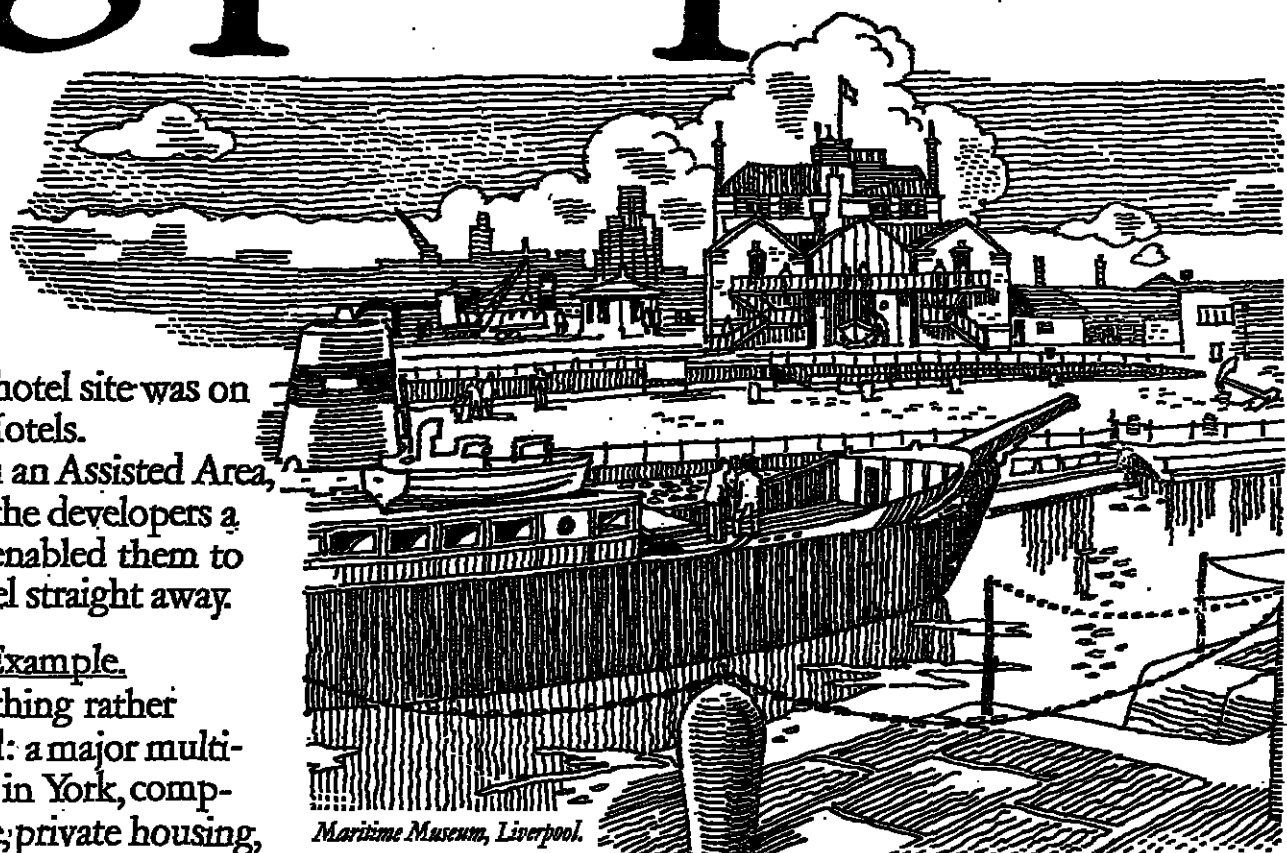
## The Future.

So much for what the English Tourist Board is doing at the present moment.

What of the future?

Our research for example shows that there's room for growth in self-catering holiday villages.

We predict that future developers will be looking for year-round operations, based on high-quality, imaginatively-designed central facilities,



Maritime Museum, Liverpool.

offering leisure and recreation for all ages, attractive to holiday-makers and conference delegates alike.

Such developments already exist in Europe and elsewhere, and are profitable.

You'll find more information about this sector of the market in "Prospects for Self-Catering Developments," an ETB publication.

## Find Out More.

If you are considering investment in tourism in England, we'd like to hear from you.

We can tell you about the money that is now available for tourism projects, no matter how large or small.

Self-catering village of the future.



At the very least, we can send you our publication, "Financing Tourist Projects."

It covers the basics of raising money for tourism; presenting your case; finding a commercial or non-commercial source of finance; how the Tourist Boards can help.

Phone 01-730 3400.

For more detailed information, ask for Miles Collinge, Director of Development, for general advice on tourism investment in England, or Paul McKeough if you need details of grants, loans and other financing services.

\*£5.00 per copy.



English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU.





## FINANCE AND THE FAMILY

## Tax recovery on covenants

BY OUR LEGAL STAFF

I took the advice given under "Covenant" in *Personal Finance* Planning 6, Page 14 in your issue dated April 26, 1980, admittedly predating the covenants to March 30, 1980. The children of three sons were involved. As nothing seemed to happen, in November I went to my local tax office and obtained the necessary R185 (AP) forms and sent them to my sons. So far, I am aware of nothing having happened. Could you inform me how long the repayment procedure should take? Have you any detailed advice to offer? As you executed the deeds of covenant at the end of last April, there can be no possibility of the beneficiaries securing income tax refunds for 1979-80. If the certificates R185 (AP) have given the Inland Revenue the impression that the deeds were executed during 1979-80 and that the initial payments were made before April 6 last year, you should set the facts straight as soon as possible, lest you be suspected of fraudulent misrepresentation. The deeds will be legally binding upon you even if they produce no tax benefits.

## Contributions to a pension

I am a member of my company's pension scheme which is contracted out. The compulsory contribution is 44 per cent of salary. There seems to be some considerable doubt as to the maximum figure which is permitted as additional voluntary contributions. Can you help?

The maximum total employee contribution permitted by the Inland Revenue to any pension scheme is 15 per cent of PAYE earnings. If the compulsory contribution is 44 per cent then there should in theory be scope for an additional voluntary contribution of 104 per cent. Apart from however from Inland Revenue limits your own company scheme may impose its own rules which may be more restrictive.

A point that is often missed is that the compulsory contribution often applies to only a slice of salary because the scheme is "integrated" whereas Revenue rules on the 15 per cent apply to total PAYE earnings. Thus an employee earning £6,000 in an integrated scheme where they say the first £1,000 was

ignored in calculating pensionable salary would pay compulsory contributions only on £5,000. At 44 per cent this would be £2,200. Fifteen per cent of £5,000 would be £900. The maximum voluntary contribution would therefore be £900 less £2,200, i.e. £687.50 which is in fact 11.46 per cent of total earnings and not 10.25 per cent.

With this type of complexity it is easy to understand why many employers impose their own supplementary limits on voluntary contributions so that both employees and those responsible for scheme administration can more readily understand what they are doing.

## Planning and use

Under the Town and Country Planning Act does the use of the land or the user? Is it permissible or an unapproved practice for planning consent to be granted on a personal basis? If an unauthorised construction and/or use of land, or land subject to planning consent for use for a specific period such as five years, has lasted for any length of time, does that development then become unauthorised? If so what is the relevant period? The use is attached to the land. However a temporary use may be restricted to user by a specific person, firm or company.

## Alterations and VAT

In your issue of December 29, you published a letter and reply headed "Alterations and VAT" in which you referred to the case of ACT Construction Ltd. v. Customs and Excise Commissioners.

My circumstances are identical to all intents and purposes with the facts set out in that letter but unfortunately I was away at the time of your issue of October 18 to which there is a reference of an article on page five headed "When the roof falls in". Could you tell me what it said?

I approached the VAT main office, Liverpool about the work I had done in September 1979 of tiling and guttering with entirely different materials. In reply, the Customs and Excise have quoted that a direct replacement is not considered to be an alteration to a building and have referred me to the

relevant paragraphs in HM Customs and Excise Notice No. 708 and 715. Although it might be difficult to argue that there was no element of maintenance in the work carried out, I maintain that the greater part of it was an alteration or an improvement to an existing building.

I am told that the ACT Construction case is to go to the House of Lords and I am anxious to proceed with my claim for a refund of VAT. Could I have your observations? The article in our issue of October 18 which referred to the judgments in the ACT Construction case in the House of Lords unfortunately contained a number of errors relating to what was actually said. The case was dealing with items of expenditure which were accepted by the Customs and

Excise as alterations but the Customs took the view that the expenditure was maintenance and therefore not zero rated. In our opinion the essence of the judgment was that the word "maintenance" should be used in its ordinary meaning. In relation to your tiling and guttering, the reason for the changes might be important. If the system of tiling and guttering was defective, this might be sufficient to make the expenditure one of alteration and not maintenance.

The Customs and Excise notices numbers 708 and 715 are their statements of opinion regarding the law and have no legal force. If the ACT Construction case is to go to the House of Lords, the Customs and Excise will no doubt wait until that judgment is available before proceeding with your claim.

Excise as alterations but the Customs took the view that the expenditure was maintenance and therefore not zero rated. In our opinion the essence of the judgment was that the word "maintenance" should be used in its ordinary meaning. In relation to your tiling and guttering, the reason for the changes might be important. If the system of tiling and guttering was defective, this might be sufficient to make the expenditure one of alteration and not maintenance.

an unauthorised construction and/or use of land, or land subject to planning consent for use for a specific period such as five years, has lasted for any length of time, does that development then become unauthorised? If so what is the relevant period? The use is attached to the land. However a temporary use may be restricted to user by a specific person, firm or company.

You would require an ordinary Deed of Assignment for value. If you effected the assignment as a gift it would be chargeable to Capital Transfer Tax on the amount by which the donor's estate is diminished; i.e. on the value of the gift. If you do not have a lease at a rent the amount by which the occupier's presence reduces the value of the property before the gift or sale is effected will be greatly reduced; a protected tenancy would considerably diminish the starting value. On the sale transaction there would be no charge to Capital Transfer Tax if the price paid is a proper price; otherwise a charge may arise to the extent that there is an element of gift in the transaction.

## Tenancies and meals

We are hoping to let two rooms in our house to teachers and nurses. As we want to be able to ask them to leave if they become unreasonable in their behaviour and through non-payment of rent and such like, we have been told by friends that have

No legal responsibility can be accepted by the Financial Times for the answers given in these columns. All inquiries will be answered - by post as soon as possible.

to provide a number of meals each week. Is this correct? It is not necessary to have recourse to the provision of meals, as you are resident landlords. However, it would be wise to have a solicitor draft a form of tenancy agreement for you to ensure that the prerequisites for recovery of possession by a resident landlord are fully complied with.

## Credit for a deposit

Some months ago I became the tenant of a flat in order to secure the tenancy I had to provide a deposit of £112, the equivalent of four weeks' rent. Since then my rent has been reduced upon registration by the rent officer. My questions are therefore: (a) Am I entitled to recover the deposit, now given the fact that to have refused it at the beginning would have prevented me obtaining this accommodation in a city of serious housing shortage? If not, how can I ensure the return of the deposit should there be a dispute concerning defects, damage, etc? If the deposit was a lawful deposit, we think that you would not be entitled to recover it or have it reduced; but this would depend on the precise terms under which you paid the deposit. Your only way of ensuring that the deposit is duly credited is not to pay the last five or six weeks' rent.

## No responsibility for wall

I am concerned about the dangerous condition of the wall of my neighbour's property which runs alongside the patch leading to my door. I wrote to the freeholders about it, but they said it was a matter for the leasees. Should the wall collapse and cause damage to my property or injury to somebody, could I be held financially responsible? We think that responsibility would not rest with you. It may rest with the leasee, or possibly with the freeholder whose wall it is. We think that you should adopt the principle that the freeholder is responsible, and leave him to pursue his leasee if appropriate.

## Making two nations one

BARBARA CASTLE, as Secretary of State for Social Services in the last Wilson Government, often talked of the "two nation state" of pensions when promoting her earnings-related State pension scheme. She was referring to the contrast between employees with a company pension scheme based on final earnings and workers who had to rely solely on the basic State pension.

Her scheme will eventually eliminate these two worlds. Everyone will have an earnings-related pension. But over the past decade pensioners have been divided again—into those who can enjoy an index-linked pension and those who cannot. Public service employees have index-linked pensions. The private sector is another matter.

The debate has become highly emotional but very little light has been shed on the subject. There are no official statistics on the pensions sector, a strange omission for a sector worth £40bn plus. The only body trying to provide a comprehensive picture is the National Association of Pension Funds, which this week published its annual survey for 1980.

The NAPP has to rely on the co-operation of its members in providing data. Each year more companies have supplied figures, the latest being based on 104 public sector schemes—nationalised industries, local authorities and certain others—plus 2,300 private sector schemes. The value of funds amounted to £38,860m with an annual income of £4,890m so the survey covered a sizeable slice of the pensions scene and its judgments can be regarded as fair.

One major conclusion is that private sector employees fare very badly compared with their public service counterparts both when they retire and when they change jobs.

Table 1 shows increases in pensions made by public sector and private schemes. In the public sector, 88 per cent of schemes actually guaranteed increases in line with the Retail Price Index. Only 2 per cent of private schemes guaranteed RPI increases.

A further 20 per cent of public schemes had no guaranteed increase in pension, but that most of this group do increase pensions each year with the RPI—only the guarantee is missing.

In the private sector 66 per cent of schemes either have no guaranteed increase at all, or

TABLE 1—PENSION INCREASES			
Guaranteed Increase	Public Schemes	Private Schemes	
Under 3 per cent	1	3	
3 per cent but under 4 per cent	3	23	
4 per cent but under 5 per cent	1	2	
5 per cent and over	68	4	
Matches Retail Price Index	20	68	
No Guaranteed Increase			

TABLE 2—AVERAGE PENSION RISE			
Year	Increase All Schemes	Increase Private Sector	Increase RPI
1977	9.93	6.0	17.7
1978	7.71	7.7	7.4
1979	9.24	6.0	16.0

\* Estimated by FT.  
Source: NAPP.

## PENSIONS

ERIC SHORT

some of the companies concerned actually make sizeable increases on an ad hoc basis. Table 2 shows the average pension increase in the past three years against inflation. But since it combines public and private schemes the information is of limited value. If we assume that public schemes account for one-third of the data by membership, and these gave full RPI increases, the average increase in the private sector was as shown in the table.

The survey needs to clarify the data on this most important feature of pension schemes.

It is comparing increases in a particular year with the RPI rise in that year. Many schemes tend to operate on historical RPI movements one year in arrears. Next year perhaps the survey will have more information on this point separating public and private. What we need to know is how many schemes made no increase at all.

When an employee changes jobs, he has either a deferred pension based on his current salary and years of service, or equivalent transfer value. With public service schemes, the value of this pension is increased each year to give some allowance for inflation. In the private sector only 16 per cent make such increases. The pension is literally frozen for 84 per cent of schemes and the employee loses out through inflation on change of jobs.

The survey also has lots of information on the contributions paid by employees and their employers towards the pension—a subject of keen interest to trade union nego-

tiators. In spite of the publicity given on the importance of pensions, the average employee's attitude is geared to minimising the contributions rather than maximising the benefits—the cash-in-hand syndrome.

The survey shows that in 74 per cent of staff schemes, the members contribute from their earnings, the percentage for works schemes rising to 85 per cent. Combined schemes, staff and works is one scheme, the portion is .88 per cent. The average payment for all schemes was 4.40 per cent of earnings. Those white collar employees that did contribute paid a higher portion of their earnings—4.61 per cent—than manual workers—3.61 per cent. When both were in the same scheme, the rate was 4.48 per cent. Again no distinction is drawn between public and private schemes.

Employers still bear the lion's share of costs. Their average contribution was 10.98 per cent of earnings on contributory schemes and 16.96 per cent if members did not contribute. But even more significant is that employers paid more for staff than for works schemes. On contributory schemes, they paid 12.60 per cent for staff and only 7.41 per cent for works schemes. On non-contributory schemes the payments were 18.13 per cent and 7.46 per cent respectively. The unions will find these figures disturbing to say the least.

On combined schemes, employers paid 10.75 per cent of earnings for contributory schemes and 16.87 per cent on non-contributory.

\* Survey of Occupational Pension Schemes—1980, published by the National Association of Pension Funds, Sunley House, Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 0XP. Price £8 (members), £16 (non-members).

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## Living with capital gains tax and learning to love it

IT IS FUNDAMENTAL to our legal system that the citizen is assumed to know what the law is—and that must mean that he understands its proper meaning.

Perhaps we thought that after 16 years of living with capital gains tax—and learning to love it—we had achieved the required understanding. If we did think that, then Mr. Justice Vinelott's decision in the High Court in February may have seemed superfluous.

The case of Bentley v. Pike (H.M. Inspector of Taxes) concerned, among other matters, the question how capital gains should be calculated when the relevant asset was denominated in foreign currency, and had been disposed of for a currency amount which had then been exchanged into sterling.

We can illustrate the point at issue by means of a simple example. Assume that a UK resident purchased 100 shares in a U.S. corporation, at a time when the price was \$100 and the exchange rate £1=\$2.50, then the sterling equivalent of their cost would be £4,000.

He later disposed of the shares when their price had moved to \$120 per share, but when sterling had weakened to £1=\$2.00. The £12,000 would therefore convert into £6,000—if he were to convert the proceeds of his sale into sterling.

One interpretation of capital gains tax law says that his gain is £2,000, being the difference between his sterling-equivalent cost of £4,000 and proceeds of £6,000. The alternative, which Mr. and Mrs. Bentley contended for, is to quantify the gain at £2,000 and to point out that these dollars, when the taxpayer realises them by selling his shares, will only convert into £1,000.

The Revenue seems always to have thought that the first view was the correct one. So also have many lawyers and accountants—agreeing that capital gains tax is a sterling tax, computed on the difference between proceeds and costs, and therefore only capable of application if those sums are expressed in sterling.

However, there have been devotees of the contrary view—that the gain should be computed in currency terms and the amount to be taxed in the UK should be the sterling equivalent of that gain from abroad. And the word has spread that at least one taxpayer took an appeal in front of the Commissioners using this argument and won his case.

## TAXATION

DAVID WAINMAN

Proceedings in taxpayers' appeals to either the Special or the General Commissioners are confidential, unless the taxpayer wishes to make them public. The Special Commissioners are made up of equal numbers of individuals who have previously worked in the Inland Revenue and of lawyers—and constitute an independent tribunal with considerable skill and experience in tax matters.

If the Special Commissioners can perhaps be likened to stipendiary magistrates, the General Commissioners would be analogous to justices of the peace. They are generally businessmen from the locality—and their ability to act as independent arbiters of the facts in a taxpayer's appeal has never been thought to require that they must be totally ignorant of the background to the cases coming before them, or unknown to appellant and plaintiff.

Lord Chief Justice Hewart was aiming no criticism at the actions of General Commissioners when making the only remark for which he is now remembered (repeatedly or otherwise): "Justice must not only be done; it must manifestly be seen to be done."

We must, however, go back to the Commissioners' decision about capital gains tax on a currency asset. It seems that one body of Commissioners was persuaded by a taxpayer that it was correct to compute the gain in currency, and to tax only the sterling sum which could have been remitted following the disposal.

To use the figures already quoted, the taxpayer claimed to be taxed as follows:

Proceeds of disposal	\$12,000
Cost of acquisition	10,000
	\$2,000
Equivalent at disposal date to	\$1,000

The taxpayer is said to have won that particular case, approximately five years ago, and the Revenue did not appeal to the High Court, even though it had not considered the Commissioners' interpretation of the law to be correct.

In the more recent case of Bentley v. Pike referred to above, which the Revenue did take to the High Court in February this year, it obtained the opposite result:

Proceeds of disposal	\$12,000
Equivalent at that time to	\$6,000
Cost of acquisition	\$10,000
Equivalent at that time to	4,000
Gain	\$2,000

As has been said, many accountants and lawyers would have agreed that this interpretation was the correct one, and have held that view since 1965. The unsatisfactory feature which they might identify in the present arrangements is what one might describe as their semi-permeable secrecy.

One must obviously respect the wishes of the taxpayer who does not want their own affairs made public—no wish to use the Commissioners as a confidential arbitration facility, to determine facts disputed between taxpayer and Revenue.

And one must also respect the Commissioners' own view that their job can best be done if they do not allow precedent to tie their hands, particularly in mixed questions of fact and law.

But where the only matter at issue is the interpretation of the law, it is not necessarily self-evident that the Revenue, being party to every case, should apprise its own staff of Commissioners' decisions.

If the Revenue's reply is that its doing so is justified by its need to manage the tax system efficiently and cost-effectively, then taxpayers and their agents might counter that they also are entitled to a knowledge of legal decisions which would place them in an equal position in managing respectively their own and their clients' affairs.

Perhaps Lord Hewart should have enquired whether justice would be better served by publicity for Commissioners' decisions on law.

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## YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

Martin Taylor looks at new developments in the bond market

## Leeds leads the way

CONSUMER CHOICE has returned to the London bond market—buyers of sterling bonds are no longer restricted to an endless diet of British Government paper. After a hesitant start last autumn, the foreign sector looks to have taken off with last week's heavily oversubscribed £50m issue for the Kingdom of Sweden. Then this week, the local authority loan stock market was revived with a £50m bond for the City of Leeds.

A number of potential borrowers, foreign and domestic, are waiting in the wings, from the homely local authority to the more exotic such as the Mexico state oil company.

The Sweden bond follows two other Scandinavian issues, from Denmark and Iceland, although it differs from them in being dated (it matures in 1988). The Leeds issue is the first local authority stock negotiable "yearling" bonds—for two years, and the first 25-year issue since 1967, when the GLC borrowed on a coupon of

61 per cent. The coupon for Leeds is just twice that, and the gross redemption yield is 13.82 per cent.

Whereas the Denmark and Iceland bonds were placed directly with institutional investors, the two more recent issues have been offered for sale to the public, which has made it much easier for the smaller investor to get in on the ground floor. The Sweden issue was offered publicly to take advantage of the rule by which a sovereign borrower (as opposed to a state-guaranteed agency) which offers bonds to the public may have them quoted on the Stock Exchange on the same commission basis as gilt-edged stocks.

This perhaps justifies a marginally lower coupon, and certainly makes the bond more marketable, although it is in other ways more costly for the borrower, since the public offer involves advertising expenses, and the underwriters are at risk for several days, and therefore require a higher fee.

The Leeds bond does not

quality for gilt-edged commission structure, since local authorities—even if they are districts of metropolitan counties—are not yet recognised as sovereign names. In this case the Bank of England is understood to have told Leeds' advisers that it considered an offer for sale appropriate for such a major issue.

This bond was offered at a yield roughly 1 point higher than smaller gilt-edged stocks (there was not an exactly comparable issue with a 2006 redemption date). By the time subscriptions went in on Thursday morning, the gilt-edged market had fallen, and so inevitably, had the yield premium for Leeds.

But the great attraction of this issue was that investors only had to put up £10 of the £971 issue price for the first two months; the final call is not due until late June.

This payment structure allows the lender to place a highly geared bet on a fall in interest rates, and it ensured that the issue was oversubscribed.

The yield premium over gilt-edged reflects a number of factors. For a start, local authority debt does not carry a specific government guarantee (although default would be, to say the least, surprising). More importantly, the stock does not share the privileges which the Government reserves to its own debts, such as the capital gains tax exemption on stock held for more than a year, or the possibility of dealing cum—or ex-dividend during certain periods. Finally, a £50m stock—even if, like the Sweden issue, it may be dealt on gilt-edged commissions—cannot offer the degree of marketability of a £1bn Government bond.

What everyone—most of all the Bank of England—would like to see now is some borrowing by private sector companies to allow them to repay some of the bank debt built up over the years since it was last possible to float long-dated fixed-interest debt. Companies seem generally unwilling to issue bonds at a yield much above 12½ per cent, and there is a danger that if these levels are reached, they will hold out for another point or so and end up missing the boat again.

## Arabs turn heads in Tokyo

A STOCK BROKER in Kabutocho, Tokyo's equivalent to Wall Street, recalls one day last year when a limousine pulled up in front of the Securities Association headquarters. Two Arabs in full regalia emerged.

"All noses were pressed to the window. Most of us had never seen one before," he quips.

Word of OPEC investors in the Tokyo stock market, or even rumours that they are on the way, does indeed turn heads in Japan. Foreign investment, or "Gaijin gai", has continued this year as the major psychological prop for the market. Such buying first appeared with remarkable strength late last summer and most of it is assumed to come from OPEC members.

The presence of a steady inflow of foreign funds has helped push Tokyo stock market indicators to record levels this week. The Nikkei Dow Index has recovered from under 7,000 on December 13 to a record 7,325.96 on Wednesday this week (although it eased a little Thursday after the authorities tightened margin trading requirements). The broader Tokyo SE index has also been recording new highs.

At least part of the rapid recovery is attributed to a report last week in the leading business daily in Japan, Nihon Keizai Shimbun, that the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) was ready to commit about \$1bn to two UK merchant banks to build up a Japanese stock portfolio. The Saudis apparently have so far avoided buying shares in favour of investment in Japanese Government bonds through the Bank of Japan.

## STOCKS

RICHARD HANSON

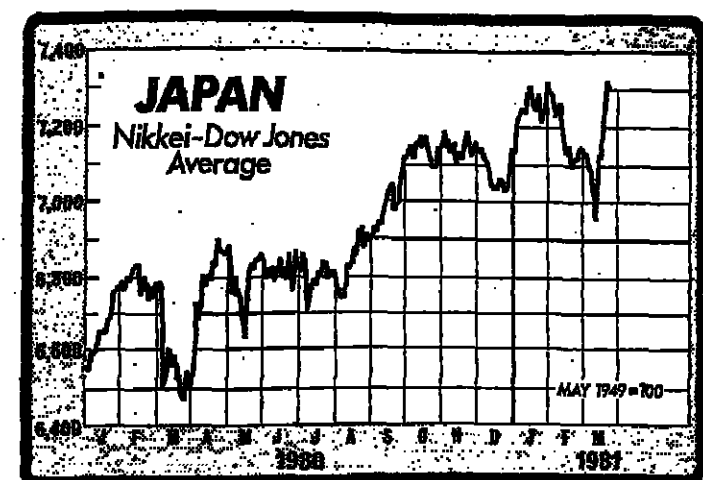
There has been no confirmation that SAMA is going through with its plan but the story was compelling enough to override what gloom and caution may have existed earlier in the month.

The report of Saudi interest came in the wake of growing optimism about the Japanese economy, which was fanned by a 1 per cent cut in the official discount rate to 6.25 per cent last week. Sluggish corporate profits are expected to turn upwards again later this year.

These developments have helped to erase memories of recent depressions on the market. The most spectacular was the arrest on February 16 of the alleged leader of a stock speculating circle in Tokyo known as the Seibi Group.

The arrest, made in connection with a tax evasion case, sent a number of speculative stocks tumbling (one example is Iseizai, a rather small seller of books, the share price of which had been pushed up to about ¥2,000 last year. It now trades at around ¥360).

The drop in share prices in turn led to a series of financial collapses directly related to unsuccessful stock speculations. These involved companies to which loans had been made partly on the basis of collateral in the form of "speculative" stocks. Foreign banks in Tokyo were heavily involved in lending to such companies without, it seems, having realised how



volatile Tokyo stock prices can be. With "Gaijin gai" fever running strong, the market appears to be only mildly bothered by the fact that margin trading debt (now about ¥1,500 (\$72bn) outstanding, or roughly 2 per cent of the market's total value) are at record levels.

It is estimated that net foreign buying of stocks, is running this month at about ¥100bn, after a dip in interest in February when buying amounted to ¥75bn.

The fundamental outlook for Japanese shares is perhaps not so strong as had been hoped a few months ago. Companies are still running down stocks and the expected up-turn in consumer spending has failed to materialise. Yet, with the Tokyo talk centring this week on Saudi billions, such matters were quietly overlooked.

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## Treasure chest or Pandora's box

LAST AUTUMN, Vanbrugh found a way for the self-employed to unlock the assets put aside for their old age in a personal pensions contract with a life company. Up to then, the self-employed could not cash in these contracts, neither could they be used as collateral for a loan.

The key, discovered by Vanbrugh, was simply to grant the self-employed the facility to borrow from the life company up to the value of the contract, with some other asset as security. The loan then became an asset of the individual's pension fund and interest paid on the loan boosted the pension fund being accrued. The loan can be repaid from the tax-free cash sum available at retirement.

Effectively, the individual is borrowing from himself, picking up useful tax credits on the way since he pays the premiums net of tax but the fund receives the gross payment. In addition, the fund receives interest payments gross, but the loan interest may be eligible for tax relief.

Vanbrugh found that it had unlocked a treasure chest as far as new business is concerned. It has sold £3m of

new annual premiums of this kind since early November last year, against £1m for the year up to then.

Not surprisingly, every unlinked life company and many insurance brokers want to get in on this bonanza. The self-employed consider the loan back facility indispensable and more insurance brokers are finding that if they do not sell such a contract they lose the business of life companies are compounding the scramble by relaxing the loan conditions to attract that extra slice of business.

Now loans are being made automatically on the security of second mortgages on a variety of assets, with no regard for the borrowers' covenant. The interest rate is usually only two points above the building society mortgage rate. In some cases the self-employed has a choice of interest rates. Since interest is paid into the pension contract, there can be a tax advantage in paying higher rates.

This development puts traditional companies at a disadvantage. With-profit contracts do not adapt to loan facilities in the way that linked schemes do. Sun Life gets

## SELF-EMPLOYED

ERIC SHORT

round the problem because investors can switch from with-profit to unit-linked. Equitable Life has launched a complex scheme on its with-profit contracts, and its articles allow it to pay different bonuses to different policyholders.

A new scheme from RoyTrust Financial, the insurance broking arm of the banking group the Royal Trust Company of Canada gets round the problem another way. Under this scheme, which is equally applicable to linked contracts, the self-employed can obtain a loan from the banking group up to 15 times the annual premium on the pension contract.

The loan is secured on a first or second mortgage on residential or commercial property plus a life policy and only the interest on the loan is paid to retirement. The loan is repaid from the tax-free cash sum at retirement. Interest is 3½ per cent over London Inter-Bank Offered Rate, for first mortgages and 4 per cent for

second charges.

RoyTrust claims this method is far cheaper than a loan repaid by equal monthly instalments of capital and interest, especially for the 60 per cent taxpayer. A £10,000 loan over 20 years would cost £1,143.50 net of 60 per cent tax in the first year and this net cost would rise as the interest portion fell. With this new scheme, the net cost is £940 a year and after the loan is repaid at age 60, the self-employed has an expected cash sum of £7,522 plus a pension of £5,210. Such is the tax efficiency of these schemes.

But Mr. Malcolm Taylor, the actuary of Schroder Life, believes life companies have opened a "Pandora's Box," in granting loan backs. They have entered the secondary banking business by loaning their own money (RoyTrust does not do this) and they are granting loans automatically under conditions that would make a banker shudder. Schroder Life has just launched a discretionary loan back facility and is turning down the majority of applicants, despite the loss of broker goodwill. He forecasts a mini-crisis for certain life companies in a few years.

## Trusting in high technology

THE WORLD of unit trusts enters the high technology market this weekend with the launch of one of the few authorised unit trusts concentrating entirely on high technology companies on a worldwide basis. The new venture comes from fund managers Henderson Administration and is called the "Henderson Global Technology Trust."

The men at Henderson believe there is still plenty of excitement left in the high technology sector in spite of a

number of expensive earnings multiples on UK and foreign shares. Their philosophy in the new unit trust is to invest 40 per cent of the initial portfolio in Japan, the same amount in North America and the remaining 20 per cent in the UK and Continental Europe.

There are a handful of UK-based technology funds already, but Henderson claims it has the first fund with global emphasis. The U.S. and European segments of the portfolio will be managed from London and the

Japanese holdings will be managed by Henderson-Baring Management, the Hong Kong group owned jointly by Henderson and Baring Brothers.

Mr. Ben Wrey, managing director of Henderson Administration, agreed this week that many of the technology stocks selling around the world were at a "high premium." He also acknowledged that the past few years had seen a boom in electronics and other technology shares.

But this development was

"only the tip of the iceberg" according to Mr. Wrey.

He said that the new unit trust was for "people who are willing to look at the long term, take higher risks and diversify their portfolio."

The emphasis would be on capital growth and the first dividend income, scheduled for February, 1982, would be "minimal." Less than 5 per cent of the portfolio would be in unquoted stocks.

Alan Friedman

## Abbey Gift &amp; Fixed Interest Trust

OBJECTIVE: high income plus capital growth from an actively managed portfolio currently in gilts. Distributions (now on a quarterly basis) have increased from 5p-13p a unit since launch in Dec, 1978, plus an 11.8% capital value increase.

Offer price: 111.8p x 10. Estimated gross yield: 11.72%.  
Price of units and estimated gross yield as at 26th March, 1981.  
Distribution dates: 30 April, 31 July, 31 Oct, 31 Jan. (final).  
An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of the Trust; an annual charge of 0.55% plus VAT is deducted from the Trust's net income. The Trust's net income is distributed to the unit holders.

To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR.

I/we enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in Abbey Gift & Fixed Interest Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Forename(s) (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname

Address

Postcode Date

Signature(s) (In case of joint applicants all must sign and attach names and addresses separately)

☐ Please let me have further details of the Trust. ☐ Please let me have details of the Automatic Reinvestment Scheme.

## Abbey Income Trust

OBJECTIVE: a high and increasing income from a reorganised portfolio invested mainly in smaller UK companies. Distributions (paid quarterly) now give an income yield over 50% higher than that on the FT-A All-Share Index.

Offer price: 39.1p. Estimated gross yield: 8.9%.  
Price of units and estimated gross yield as at 26th March, 1981.  
Distribution dates: 31 May (final), 31 Aug, 30 Nov, 28/29 Feb.

An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of the Trust; an annual charge of 0.55% plus VAT is deducted from the Trust's gross income.

To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR.

I/we enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in Abbey Income Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Forename(s) (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname

Address

Postcode Date

Signature(s) (In case of joint applicants all must sign and attach names and addresses separately)

☐ Please let me have further details of the Trust. ☐ Please let me have details of the Automatic Reinvestment Scheme.

## Abbey American Growth Trust

OBJECTIVE: capital growth and some income from a portfolio of leading North American companies, with current emphasis on energy and technology. Up 25.0% since launch in Dec, 1979 compared with a 16.7% increase in the Dow Jones Index (adjusted for £/\$ exchange rate).

Offer price: 62.7p. Estimated gross yield: 2.2%.  
Price of units and estimated gross yield as at 26th March, 1981.  
Distribution dates: 28/29 Feb.

An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of the Trust; an annual charge of 0.55% plus VAT is deducted from the Trust's gross income.

To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR.

I/we enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in Abbey American Growth Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Forename(s) (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname

Address

Postcode Date

Signature(s) (In case of joint applicants all must sign and attach names and addresses separately)

☐ Please let me have further details of the Trust. ☐ Please let me have details of the Automatic Reinvestment Scheme.

## Abbey Worldwide Bond Trust

OBJECTIVE: capital growth and some income from direct investment in overseas fixed interest securities. The Trust is actively managed to take advantage of the opportunities offered by currency and bond market fluctuations.

Offer price: 95.7p. Estimated gross yield: 6.72%.  
Price of units and estimated gross yield as at 26th March, 1981.  
Distribution date: 31 July.

An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of the Trust; an annual charge of 0.55% plus VAT is deducted from the Trust's gross income.

To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR.

I/we enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in Abbey Worldwide Bond Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Forename(s) (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname

Address

Postcode Date

Signature(s) (In case of joint applicants all must sign and attach names and addresses separately)

☐ Please let me have further details of the Trust. ☐ Please let me have details of the Automatic Reinvestment Scheme.

## Abbey Capital Trust

OBJECTIVE: capital growth from a re-structured portfolio invested mainly in UK growth companies, recovery stocks and asset situations. Income is automatically reinvested through Accumulation Units.

Offer price: 80.5p. Estimated gross yield: 4.85%.  
Price of units and estimated gross yield as at 26th March, 1981.  
Distribution date: 31 May. All Units of Accumulation type. Income automatically reinvested.

An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of the Trust; an annual charge of 0.55% plus VAT is deducted from the Trust's gross income.

To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR.

I/we enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in Accumulation Units of Abbey Capital Trust at the offer price ruling on receipt of this application.

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Forename(s) (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Surname

Address

Postcode Date

Signature(s) (In case of joint applicants all must sign and attach names and addresses separately)

☐ Please let me have further details of the Trust. ☐ Please let me have details of the Automatic Reinvestment Scheme.

Now, for the investor prudently looking in the 80's, for a high and regular return on his money, or long-term capital growth, but not wanting to risk particularly volatile investment areas—Abbey Unit Trusts have the answer. A fresh look from Abbey. We've introduced two new trusts, American Growth and Worldwide Bond. And we've revitalised three others, redefining aims, adding new features, reorganising underlying portfolios. We're now looking forward to sound, steady results in investment

areas where our expertise is strong, and across a comprehensive range of trusts which you can invest in today. Service to investors. In addition to the five trusts, we offer an income reinvestment facility, a share exchange scheme, and a monthly savings scheme (minimum £40 per month). Service to the professional adviser. To the professional adviser, we offer a commitment to fast and effective service, and friendly, informed personal contact backed

by the resources and experience of one of the country's major investment groups. One of the UK's largest unithold investment fund managers. Investment expertise is provided through Abbey Life Investment Services who manage funds totalling more than £1,000m on behalf of the Managers and other group companies, including some of the largest unithold portfolios in the UK. For today's Abbey Unit Trust investor that means the

promise of professional management, from a team of widely experienced portfolio managers, based on sophisticated portfolio research and performance measurement. To invest, return the relevant application form above with your cheque, minimum £500. Remember, the price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. You should be willing to regard your investment in the trusts as long-term.

## Organised for the 80's

General information: You can buy or sell units on any business day and a Contract Note will be sent on receipt of your instructions. A Unit Certificate will be forwarded within six weeks. Payment for repurchased units is normally made

within six working days of receipt of your repurchased units. Certificates, Unit prices and yields are published daily in the Financial Times and other leading newspapers. Charges details of charges appear in the application

forms above. Remuneration is paid to qualifying intermediaries; rates are available on request. Managers: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited, Registered Office: 1-3 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR. Registered in England No. 892241.

Trusts: The Royal Bank of Scotland London—Trustee Company The Trusts are Wider Range Investments under the Trustee Investments Act, 1962. These offers are not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

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Abbey Unit Trusts



## Away from it all

**BY PAUL MARTIN**

**LONG BEFORE** the recession hit the hotel industry many off-season discount offers have been available for those planning a short break away. The tourist boards at home provide a great deal of detailed information. The English Tourist Board's "Let's Go" is now in its eighth year and similar publications cover week-ends and short breaks in Scotland and Wales.

Each of us goes about organising a holiday, whether at home or abroad, in a different way. While some enjoy detailed planning, others are happy to entrust the homework to experienced hands and reap the benefit of packaged independence. Those who take a snap decision and book at the last minute have not been overlooked in the intensely competitive short break market.

If you are in search of Instant France, whether on a day trip or spending a couple of nights abroad, the three principal cross-Channel carriers, P & O Ferries, Sealink and Townsend Thoresen have all become specialist tour operators.

My own personal choice for that flavour of Instant France would be Dieppe. There is no

need to take a car as the Sealink ships from Newhaven tie up close to the shops and to the still pleasantly inexpensive restaurants dotted along the quay. However, I sympathise with the indifferent sailors who may feel that, on a day trip, eight hours on the occasionally unkind Channel is a bit much.

Townsend Thoresen, with its new jumbo additions to the Free Enterprise fleet has cut the Dover-Calais crossing to an hour and charges £4 (£6 on Saturdays) for the Popover day returns. All three operators offer a wide range of short holidays abroad and P & O quotes knock-down prices for non-landing cruises on the Dover-Rouleux route.

**Dover-Boulogne route.**  
While you are still entitled to your full quota of concessionary price cigarettes and drinks, it does seem a pity to cross the Channel without enjoying a French meal and the chance of buying a bottle of wine costing less than a pint in your local.

If you would prefer a longer sea journey, Danish Seaways run round-trips from both Harwich and Newcastle to Esbjerg in Denmark. The ships

are large, stylish and comfortable. The inclusive cost, sailing on any day except Friday, of £26.50 covers the sea voyage and return rail fare London-Harwich. A minimum of four people must book together spending two nights on board with a four-berth cabin provided. There is time to go ashore in Esbjerg before embarking for the return journey.

Again, allowing someone else to do all the homework, Time Off has a wide choice of destinations including Boulogne, Le Touquet, Dieppe, Rouen and Paris as well as covering Belgium and Holland. You choose your own length of stay, day of departure, mode of transport and whether you want restaurant vouchers or simply bed-and-breakfast. They are extremely efficient and prepared to cater for the last-minute escapers.

If you plan to take your wheels with you, Car Holidays Abroad, the sister company of Canvas Holidays, can package the whole deal for you using P & O Dover-Boulogne and Southampton-Le Havre services. Again you choose the length of

A black and white photograph of a bakery display. In the foreground, several loaves of bread are arranged on a wooden surface. Behind them, a large banner reads "PARISSE EXCLUSIVEMENT AU BEURRE". The background is dark and indistinct.

### Confectionary store in Dieppe

stay in a wide range of hotels throughout France, some of which also include dinner as well as overnight accommodation, and they do the rest.

The basic cost—they call this the Covercharge—starts from £99 and takes care of the return ferry crossings for two adults and a car of any length. Hotel accommodation for the first and last night of your holiday is also included. While the system may at first appear somewhat complicated, it is set out in a commendably clear way in their own booklet.

Finally, if, as a last-minute escaper, you would prefer to fly in order to spend as long as possible at your destination,

**Aer Lingus Holidays** quote from £62 per person for a week end in Dublin. Dan-Air, flying from provincial airports to Cork or Dublin, charge from £107 for a one-week fly-drive arrangement. Full details of the many short breaks available can be obtained from the Irish Tourist Board.

**Addresses: Car Holidays:**  
Abroad Limited, Bull Plain  
Hertford SG14 1DY. Danish Sea-  
ways, Mariner House, Peppy  
Street, London EC3N 4BX.  
English Tourist Board,  
Grosvenor Gardens, London  
SW1W 0DU. Grand Metropolitan  
Hotels Limited, Stratford Place  
London W1A 4YU. Irish Tourist  
Board, 150 New Bond Street

London W1Y 0AQ. P and O  
Ferryports, Armidale Towers  
Portland Terrace, Southampton  
SO9 4AE. Scottish Tourist  
Board, 23 Ravelston Terrace,  
Edinburgh EH9 2BX. Sealink  
UK Limited, Eversholt Street  
163-203 Eversholt Street  
London NW1 1BG. Time Off  
Limited, 2a Chester Close,  
Chester Street, London SW1X  
7BQ. Townsend Thoresen  
Brochures Department, 1  
Canden Crescent, Dover, Kent  
Truethouse Forte Limited, 20  
Queensmere, Slough, Berkshire  
SL1 1YJ. Wales Tourist Board,  
Brunei House, 2 Fitzalan Road,  
Cardiff CF2 1UY.

## RACING

**GLASGOW CENTRAL**, a bay Roan Rocket colt who won twice on the trot in 1980, could be any one of a number of ways answer to today's 20-runner **William Hill Lincoln Handicap** at Doncaster.

Although those with high numbered draws racing on the stand side appear to have a distinct advantage on Town Moor this year there are enough points in Glasgow Central's favour to suggest that he may overcome his number five berth. Leniently treated with 8 stone 5 lbs. he is not only a colt guaranteed to get this testing straight mile better than most but one from a stable already in form.

Trained by Ryan Price, for whom another miller, Shangarry was a three-lengths winner on the opening afternoon of this meeting Glasgow Central is thought to be right back to the form which saw him prevailing over Direct and Spring is Grey to both of whom he was conceding weight, at Windsor last

Still available at 20-1 in some books he looks to represent better value than Black Minstrel my idea of the race's safest win and place proposition; but a miler whose odds of around 7-1 hardly appeal.

A seven-year-old and the oldest member of the field, Black Minstrel should not on last year's form hold one of his market rivals in King's Ride, the 1980 Lincoln winner. However, judged on his recent display at Saint-Cloud, Black Minstrel could, conceivably, be the blot on the handicap.

Black Ministrel finished close behind the placed horses on the Paris track in the Prix-Edmond Blanc, and was beaten only five lengths by the French 2,000 guineas winner, In Fijar. It was in France last spring that In Fijar beat the subsequent "Race Horse of the Year" Moorestyle.

Anyone looking for a rank outsider likely to return a mammoth payout on the Tote should he make the frame could do worse than consider Border Brook. This bay gelding by Forlorn River ploughed through hock deep to land a seven-furlong event at Stockton last summer.

**DONCASTER**  
**1.45-Positron**  
**2.15-The Cliftonian**  
**2.55-Glasgow Central\*\*\***  
**3.25-In Confidence**  
**3.55-Rabdan**  
**4.25-Tender Angus**  
**4.55-Andley End\*\***

4.55—Audley End  
NEWBURY  
2.00—Dizzy Boy  
2.30—Sharp Deal\*  
3.10—Blidford  
3.40—Another Duke  
4.10—Kilpeck  
4.40—Day After

## The Association of Investment Trust Companies

## THE INVESTMENT TRUST TABLE

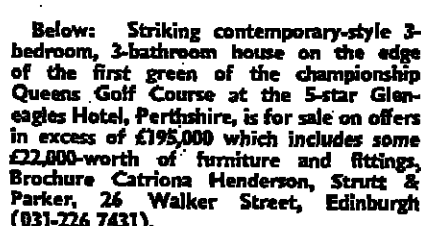
The figures in the columns below are based on information supplied by the companies named, which are members of The Association of Investment Trust Companies. The figures are unaudited.

as at close of business on Monday 23rd March 1981					Geographical Spread at 28th February 1981					Total Return on N.A.V. over 5 years to 28.2.81 (base=100)					as at close of business on Monday 23rd March 1981					Geographical Spread at 28th February 1981					Total Return on N.A.V. over 5 years to 28.2.81 (base=100)					
Total Assets less current liabilities (1) £ million	Company (2)	Share Price (3) pence	Yield (4) %	Net Asset Value (5) pence	UK (6) %	Nth. Amer. (7) %	Japan (8) %	Other (9) %							Total Assets less current liabilities (1) £ million	Company (2)	Share Price (3) pence	Yield (4) %	Net Asset Value (5) pence	UK (6) %	Nth. Amer. (7) %	Japan (8) %	Other (9) %							
190	VALUATION MONTHLY														6	Kleinwort Benson Ltd. (contd.)														
155	Alliance Trust	245	6.1	363	60	30	5	5	171						4	Family Invest. Trust	107	8.0	125	95	—	—	5	5	197					
17	British Invest. Trust	175	4.5	243	64	29	2	1	164						8	Jos Holdings	70	6.8	82	76	12	7	6	5	227					
87	Grange Trust	124	4.3	186	69	24	6	5	199						70	London Prudential Invest. Trust	104	8.5	139	70	18	6	7	6	201					
105	Great Northern Invest. Trust	129	7.3	177	75	13	4	8	181						62	Merchants Trust	95	6.2	138	67	30	6	7	7	165					
25	Investors Capital Trust	107	4.1	150	43	35	14	8	176						49	Leazard Bros. & Co. Ltd.	149	6.1	222	59	28	5	4	6	173					
14	River Plate & General Invest. Trust	236	6.4	315	76	7	—	17	236						14	Raeburn Invest. Trust	111	5.7	188	62	38	4	6	6	171					
172	Save & Prosper Linked Invest. Trust	107	—	180	100	—	—	14	152						14	Romey Trust	146	6.2	200	61	28	7	3	4	175					
80	Scottish Invest. Trust	134	4.6	182	60	36	4	4	234						122	Martin Currie & Co. C.	143	5.3	198	59	38	5	3	4	175					
143	Scottish Northern Invest. Trust	111	3.9	112	80	34	2	9	189						29	Canadian & Foreign Invest. Trust	146	6.2	200	61	28	7	3	4	175					
63	Scottish United Investors	85	3.9	111	36	37	2	5	172						68	St. Andrew Trust	76	6.1	111	55	35	7	4	3	163					
103	Second Alliance Trust	215	5.7	314	60	30	—	—	181						100	Scottish Eastern Invest. Co.	71	6.3	104	58	34	10	4	3	170					
	Shires Investment Co.	144	10.9	158	100	—	—	—	181						129	Scottish Trust of Scotland	101	6.8	183	68	31	8	3	3	193					
	United States Debenture Corporation	108	7.4	147	70	30	—	—	181						20	Murray Johnstone Ltd.	71	4.6	97	48	22	12	8	8	187					
158	Baillie Gifford & Co.	151	4.9	208	39	40	10	11	186						30	Murray Caledonian Invest. Trust	67	3.5	90	46	35	11	8	11	189					
79	Scottish Mortgage & Trust	69	4.9	96	38	41	10	11	193						100	Murray Clydesdale Invest. Trust	126	3.0	178	54	27	8	11	14	189					
20	Monks Invest. Trust	350	1.2	382	4	87	20	7	202						129	Murray Glendevon Invest. Trust	77	3.2	105	38	34	14	14	7	187					
55	Winterbottom Energy Trust	71	5.4	94	63	14	—	14	171						20	Murray Northern Invest. Trust	80	4.3	114	48	35	10	7	7	187					
35	Baring Bros. & Co. Ltd.	94	4.1	130	45	26	—	12	171						41	Rivermoor Management Services Ltd.	82	5.6	104	60	20	—	20	20	239					
98	Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management	214	6.8	311	63	13	9	15	149						20	London Trust	144	7.0	182	61	39	—	10	10	212					
86	Drayton Premier Invest. Trust	171	6.3	244	63	9	12	16	152						41	Moorside Trust	144	8.7	182	61	39	—	10	10	212					
63	Drayton Commercial Invest. Co.	160	6.3	227	67	9	9	15	164						29	River and Mercantile Trust	247	7.9	334	75	1	6	18	18	205					
13	Drayton International Trust	116	6.2	171	63	17	6	14	184						40	Henry Schroder Wagg Group	184	4.8	259	53	37	8	2	3	184					
11	Colonial Securities Trust	335	6.4	426	65	16	3	11	159						67	Ashdown Invest. Trust	200	5.1	280	52	39	8	2	3	192					
7	British Industries & General Inv. Trust	143	5.0	179	54	13	16	17	163						39	Broadstone Invest. Trust	271	5.3	378	57	40	4	3	3	191					
10	Drayton Far Eastern Trust	78	2.3	94	16	—	25	57	192						103	Continental & Industrial Trust	283	4.3	315	40	44	9	7	7	183					
3	C.I. & Foreign Invest. Co.	87	5.5	28	9	99	—	—	103						10	Trans-Oceanic Trust	144	4.0	172	53	36	4	7	238						
43	Montagu Boston Invest. Trust	55	2.8	69	1	91	—	—	10						37	Stewart Fund Managers Ltd.	41	5.5	61	30	—	—	70	208						
16	xTriplevest	346	—	495	76	11	1	12	207						3	Scottish American Invest. Co.	72	5.0	121	68	15	5	12	205						
14	xCity & Commercial	246	—	337	97	2	—	1	207						3	Scottish European Invest. Co.	71	7.1	102	73	17	5	5	184						
16	xDualvest	422	—	562	82	5	—	1	207						21	Scottish European Invest. Co.	91	5.5	134	62	14	4	20	177						
14	xFundinvest	113	—	169	96	3	—	1	207						42	Cedar Invest. Trust	91	7.2	123	71	12	4	23	187						
60	East of Scotland Invest. Managers	125	6.5	175	77	21	—	2	199						38	City of London Brewery & Inv. Trust	79	8.0	127	71	12	4	23	187						
83	Edinburgh Fund Managers Ltd.	67	4.2	58	55	44	—	1	212						51	Confidential Union Trust	148	5.8	214	66	21	5	8	187						
19	American Trust	294	0.5	281	—	—	100	—	211						69	Confidential Union Trust	77	5.1	106	67	17	4	12	203						
17	Crecent Japan Invest. Trust	57	6.3	80	68	20	7	5	211						49	Industrial & General Trust	95	6.2	139	75	15	3	2	184						
12	General Scottish Trust	128	0.0	119	1	—	99	—	178						92	International Invest. Trust	73	6.0	98	78	11	2	14	185						
11	New Tokyo Invest. Trust	376	7.2	469	73	16	1	10	201						3	Sphere Invest. Trust	72	5.0	85	160	84	—	—	—	155					
105	Wemyss Invest. Co.	57	6.4	68	69	21	—	11	213						3	Trust Union	80	2.3	99	150	85	—	—	—	151					
370	Electra Group Services	146	7.1	194	64	31	4	11	180						24	Trustees Corporation	261	2.7	384	32	23	30	—	—	221					
45	Globe Invest. Trust	119	9.3	151	91	6	—	3	201						33	Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd.	291	3.8	389	46	17	25	12	—	250					
34	Temple Bar Invest. Trust	188	3.9	240	44	22	16	19	236						15	Allianta Baltimore & Chicago	244	6.1	333	60	34	3	3	174						
34	F & C Group	141	4.8	192	60	15	4	21	229						37	West Coast & Texas Regional	144	6.3	208	59	30	4	7	187						
34	Alliance Invest. Co.	132	3.8	55	35	4	—	—	24							VALUATION THREE-MONTHLY														
34	Cardinal Invest. Trust	141	4.8	192	60	15	4	21	229							City Financial Administration Ltd.														
34	F & C Eurotrust	132	3.8	55	35	4	—	—	24							Investing in Success Equities														
276	Foreign & Colonial Invest. Trust	131	4.0	175	52	22	14	12	210							General Funds Invest. Trust														
43	General Investors & Trustees	178	4.8	239	56	13	4	27	210							East of Scotland Invest. Managers														
31	GT Management Ltd.	165	1.2	173	30	24	31	15	317							Dominion & General														
1	Berry Trust	157	—	170	29	25	25	21	247							Pentland Invest. Trust														
26	xChild Health Research Invest. Trust	307	0.9	289	14	—	73	11	257																					
13	GT Japan Invest. Trust	244	2.6	300	48	22	13	17	257																					
10	Northern Securities Trust	320	0.3	447	90	3	1	6	191																					
34	Gartmore Invest. Ltd.	65	5.3	92	62	25	1	12	191																					
39	xAltifund Ltd.	66	3.9	88	49	18	10	23	233																					
10	Anglo-Scottish Invest. Trust	99	4.2	129	56	32	7	5	240																					
39	English & Scottish Investors	111	1.3	145	39	20	7	84	240																					
10	Group Investors	111	1.3	145	39	20	7	84	240																					
10	London & Gartmore Invest. Trust	43	6.0	59	22	—	19	185	202																					
12	London & Lennox Invest. Trust	99	5.5	140	73	22	—	5	202																					
30	London & Lombard Invest. Trust	70	4.4	92	63	20	—	17	169																					
15	London & Strathclyde Trust	77	6.0	94	97	—	—	3	242																					
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**BY STUART MARSHALL**

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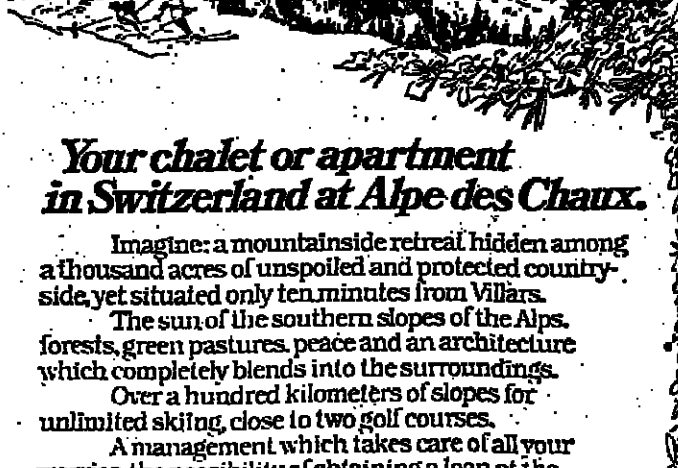
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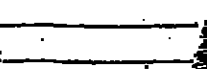
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## BOOKS

## Fighting fit

BY JOHN BOURNE

**Lead With the Left: My First Ninety-Six Years**  
by Manny Shinwell. Cassell.  
£5.95, 202 pages

Lord Shinwell has been criticised for his intransigence towards political opponents in the Labour Party over the years. Well, he certainly has a pockmarked sense of humour.

The title of this at times lively book shows that the pockmarked has survived 96 years so far. *Lead With the Left* is bound to raise hoarse laughs among the shades of the late Richard Crossman. Manny was branded by the Left during his chairmanship of the Parliamentary Labour Party as slightly to the right of Genghis Khan.

On the other hand the title—in boxing terms—is literally true. On being told once in the Commons by a Conservative MP to "go back to Poland" (his origins were Polish/Jewish), he recalls: "On impulse I left my seat, grasped the offending Member by the lapels and struck him on the side of his jaw. The MP was Commander Bower, at one time heavyweight champion of the Royal Navy. Had I known this I would never have gone near him."

However, Manny had boxed in his youth and had grown up in the squalid streets of Victorian East End, and in the slums of the Gorbals. He had very little schooling, but made his mark as a trade unionist. A belligerent Socialist, he was

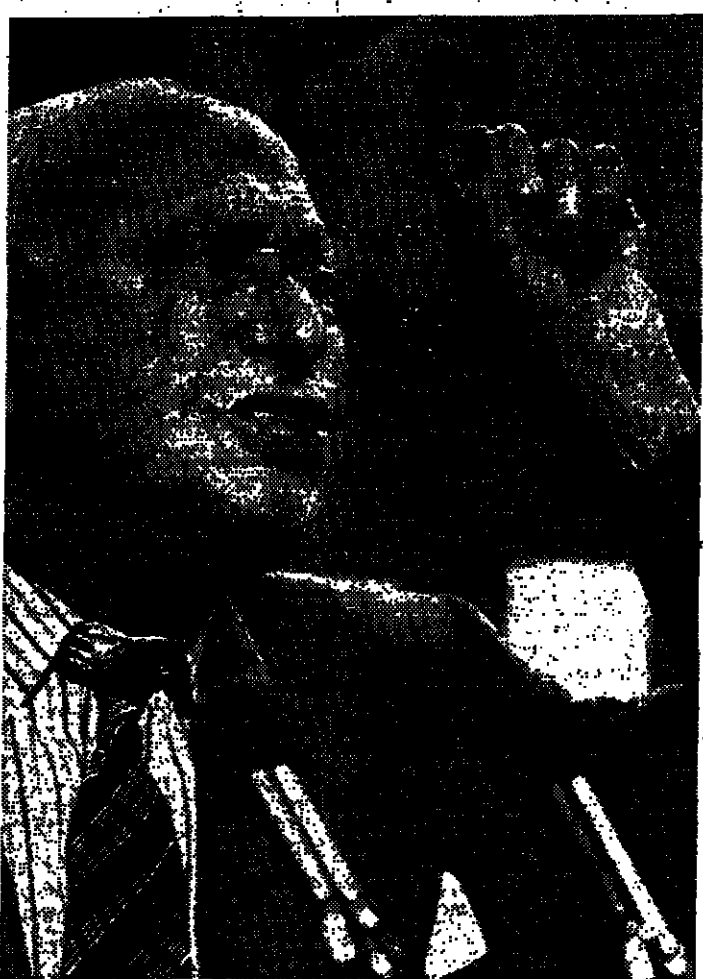
known as "a Red of the Clyde," particularly after being sentenced in 1919 to five months in prison (Willie Gallacher, the Communist, got three months) on a charge of inciting to riot. He believes this was a manoeuvre by Lloyd George because of fears that they and other demonstrators in support of a 40-hour week, would lead to a Russian-type revolution.

Shinwell's early record as an agitator would surprise the Tribune Group. Before World War I, the "wild man of the Clyde" helped to lead a seamen's strike and when it was decided to form a breakaway seamen's union, he was fired at by "one of Havelock Wilson's hired men"—a shot which killed the man standing next to Manny. Wilson was head of the TUC-recognised Seamen's Union.

The culprit was acquitted on grounds of self-defence, although no one had sought to attack him.

In 1922, Shinwell became the Independent Labour Party's MP for Lanarkshire and was Minister for Mines in Ramsay MacDonald's first Labour Government. He then refused a position in the National Government but in 1935—after four years out of Parliament—fought and defeated MacDonald in his own constituency of Seaham.

His account of these early days is the most interesting part of the book, although his assessments of men as diverse as Kier Hardie, MacDonald, Lloyd George, Bevin, Eisenhower, Atlee and Crossman, are spiky as well as illuminating.



Lord Shinwell: political memories that go back as far as the days of Ramsay MacDonald

The wartime Winston Churchill seems to be the only political leader for whom Manny's admiration is unbounded, although he did refuse to serve under Churchill during the Coalition Government.

There are, however, sidelights on Shinwell's periods as Labour's first Minister of Fuel and Power in 1945-50, the

nationaliser of the mines, and as Secretary for Defence. It is no surprise to learn that he resigned after three years as Chairman of the FLP because he could not accept the "anti-disciplinarian" ideas of Crossman, then Leader of the House, whom the author dismisses as "a colleague who treated everyone as inferior."

It is a nineteenth-century story, which is glimpsed first in 1820, when young Sarah Donnelly is thirteen and in her first year as a maid in Wensleydale. In the Prologue Sarah's quick thinking saves Squire Ingham's son from drowning, and the grateful Squire resolves to educate her. Further, young Sam Rawson, owner of the rope-works, first takes notice of Sarah.

Part One of the novel proper takes place between 1848 and 1855. Sam and Sarah Rawson now have a grown-up family,

## Fiction

## Saga still survives

BY ISOBEL MURRAY

**The Kissing Gate**  
by Pamela Haines. Collins.  
£7.95, 372 pages

**The Country**  
by David Plante. Victor Gollancz. £5.95, 152 pages

**The China Egg and other stories**  
by Gillian Tindall. Hodder and Stoughton. £5.95, 192 pages

**Deceptive Cadence**  
by Eugenia Zukerman. Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £5.50, 261 pages

**Ducks and Drakes**  
by Sue Krieman. Heinemann. £3.95, 186 pages

Although I am prepared to argue with anyone who asserts that the novel is dead, I usually have more trouble if someone were to announce the death of the saga novel. Sometimes that seems a consummation devoutly to be wished.

And just then along comes a novel like *The Kissing Gate*. It has all the qualities that mark out a successful family saga: it is long, and covers generations of a family; its elements include drama, passion, conflicts of social status; it has characters with whom the reader can identify. But *The Kissing Gate* also has exceptional qualities. It is well written, throughout its length. It has delicately observed characters with complex and credible feelings. It treats similar themes in different generations, so that a soft echo system operates.

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Part One of the novel proper takes place between 1848 and 1855. Sam and Sarah Rawson now have a grown-up family,

including the eldest son John, intended for medicine, and the second, Ned, perforce following his father in the rope-works. Sarah's lifelong curiosity about her father's family in Ireland causes John's journey there at the height of the famine, and from that nightmare he brings a sticklike, shrivelled baby. Kate's story gradually takes over from that of "Sarah-Mother."

The last part of the novel, dated 1877-1886, covers the mature years of John and Ned, and the progress of their marriages, and the next generation. There is John's son Paul, for example, who is drawn to different members of the Roman Catholic Strange-Lacey family, much as Waugh's hero Charles Ryder is in *Brideshead Revisited*. The narrative scope widens to include Paul, and his reactions first to his homosexual passion with Ned, and then to his marriage to Rose, who had been destined for a nunnery.

Impossible to summarise so vast a novel, but there are indeed riches here. Pamela Haines is particularly good at conveying her characters' consciousness of their own and other people's. Her most loving wives tend to have difficulty in responding to their husbands' ignorance and fear of pregnancy are powerful factors. We sympathise with John's daughter Sarah, who seeks and ultimately gets an education to Cambridge and a career in school teaching.

The book has its monsters: there is the Squire's lady who viciously deceives a young girl to save her son from an unwise match, and the craze who nurses hopes of vengeance on the Rawsons for many years, and horribly achieves it. But for the most part the characters are human, fallible, and rendered with a beguiling mixture of sympathy and understanding.

David Plante's *The Country* could hardly be more different. Its outstanding qualities are brevity and understatement. Plante's strength is in what he dares to omit. He follows Hemingway's ideal of pose like

an iceberg, only one-eighth above the waterline.

He tells a very simple story. Daniel, a young man who lives and works in London, pays irregular visits to his ageing parents in Rhode Island, until finally he returns for his father's wake and funeral. The family includes seven sons, whom we gradually begin to differentiate, and both Daniel's mother and his father have disabilities mental and physical appropriate to their ages.

The terse narrative often gives little clue as to Daniel's feelings. The dialogue is spare and uninformative. Brothers demand and promise visits each to the other, which are unlikely in the way of things to take place.

Above all, Plante has captured the paradoxical strangeness of finding one's parents, less mature, less competent, than oneself, and this almost literally breathless experience of a parent's death.

Gillian Tindall's *The China Egg and other stories* is chiefly remarkable for the title story, approximately the same length as Plante's. It is narrated by a well-to-do Englishwoman who has a deal to learn before her story can be complete. It is a complex story, but particularly includes an apparently outstandingly successful marriage which seemed to lack only one thing, as the couple came at last to realise—a child.

Somewhat joining a list of prospective adoptive parents wouldn't suit these trendy people at all; instead, they decide to go to India and pick a child for themselves. Left alone in Bombay while her husband jets about his business, the heroine pursues her baby, until she is diverted from the quest and her purpose by an Indian doctor.

The doctor poses radical questions about uprooting children, which she cannot answer, and gradually but inevitably they move closer. Ironically the heroine eventually finds herself pregnant by the doctor, and her husband and her doctors offer her an



Pamela Haines: family's flowering

abortion. This revelation of the plot in no way spoils the story, which is most concerned with the process by which the heroine learns.

*Deceptive Cadence* by Eugenia Zukerman is a mystery story centring on the world of classical music. Tibor Szabo is a young and much-admired pianist, acclaimed worldwide. Music is the most important thing in his life, although he very much loves English painter Sally Fraser, and depends heavily on his friendship with novelist Werner Rawlings.

The novel hangs on Tibor's disappearance, and the resolution of the conflicts between his music and his relationships. The book is well constructed, and filled with authentic detail about the world of international concert artists.

*Sue Krieman's Ducks and Drakes* is mainly concerned with the frustrations of an apparently happy woman. She has a long-coveted mansion, a rich and loving husband and two adorable children away at school. She proceeds to set up an artists' colony, and is open in telling the reader that she wants a lover; indeed, she is continually if not comically randy. The story is unsurprising and gets worse: it modulates into seriousness at an impossible stage.

## Purring along in flight

BY BRIAN AGER

**Leader of the Skies—Rolls-Royce: The first seventy-five years**  
by Michael Donne. Frederick Muller. £10.00, 157 pages

This is not so much a history as a survey of the progress so far—a half-term report—with a last chapter illustrated with designs for fantastic-looking aircraft of the future, which may well be powered by Rolls-Royce engines.

Throughout the whole of this book are pictures, ranging from a solemn-faced Charles Stewart Rolls about to make a balloon ascent, to colour plates of modern aircraft. They help chart the progress of the com-

pany whose name has become synonymous with engineering excellence.

It was a story of achievement and acquisition until the collapse of 1971—a shock to all except for a few people with inside knowledge.

But Michael Donne shows how the company was bankrupted by the mounting development costs of what finally turned out to be one of the finest aero engines in the world—the RB211.

The Government stepped in smartly to rescue the company—with Rolls-Royce Motors being floated on the Stock Exchange by the Receiver to dispose of the divisions the Government had not acquired.

Michael Donne makes it clear that he approves of this example of helping a "lame duck." He says:

"Through the 1890s and beyond to the end of the century, the RB211 in all its versions will remain one of the major contributors to the company's success in world civil aero-engine markets. It more than vindicates the original decision in the early 1960s to commit the company to its development, and the government's decision in 1971 to rescue the company and continue with the engine. For it is now abundantly clear that, had Rolls-Royce and the Government decided differently, the company—and the

nation itself—would by now have been out of the "big engine" market, at a time when the world air transport industry is expanding at a rapid rate, creating an unprecedented demand for aero-engines as well as for new civil airframes."

Not only is the company continuing to make and improve this engine, it is developing others, and producing industrial and marine versions of aero-engines, and is also involved in nuclear power ventures.

Though neither colleague Michael Donne nor I will be here to see it, perhaps someone will one day write a book about the first 150 years of Rolls-Royce.

## Churchill's circus moves on

BY GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON

**The Churchillians**  
by John Colville. Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £8.95, 222 pages

The Churchill Circus enjoyed a good long run. During the war, the Big Top was erected in one city after another and to see the circus in its way was one of the most unforgettable sights of those troubled but, surely, glorious years. There they were: soldiers, sailors, civil servants, secretaries, cypher clerks, typists, security men, Royal Marine messengers and so on. Each carrying with him a spark of his master's prestige, each demanding a proportionate amount of service, consideration and priority.

I write as one who viewed the spectacle from close up, as member of another, vastly more modest show. Lord Beaverbrook's "Modest?" Perhaps not the word I am looking for. Not so numerous as the Number One Company, not half so grand, but with a first-class Barker (the OED says I can use that word—"one who cries for wages at a cheap shop or show; now chiefly U.S."). Quite so. And with a centry of conceit and criticism. Do I not recall one of our Marines, eyeing the passing spectacle in a Washington hotel, say "I don't like the way that there Marine is looking at that little clerk?" After his years at sea, he had an eye for that sort of thing.

But to return to The Churchillians, those grandes of the back room, those powerful, invisible, over-worked figures who devoted their war to making smooth the path for their demanding master, Sir John Colville, who was not the least of them, writes with knowledge, sympathy and humour, casting his net far more widely than the immediate denizens of the Private Office and bringing

ashore such monsters of the deep as The Prof. (Cherwell), the mysterious Bracken, Moran, Pug (Lammy) and Beaverbrook himself who, in his humbler moments "would not have minded being called a Churchillian. In 1911, he had said, 'I'd give 55 to have that man at my dinner table.'"

Among those nearer to the Throne, there are vivid portraits of Sir Ian Jacob, that incomparable staff officer (known as "Iron Pants"), Sir George Harvie Watt, whose weekly account of events and people in the House of Commons brought so much light and entertainment to the Prime Minister, and Sir John Martin.

Martin was—is a Son of the Manse, that is to say, he is (like Bonar Law, Beaverbrook, Horne, John Buchan and Steel) a member of an élite within the élite. In my boyhood, I of the M were never for their liberal proclivities—which may, or may not, be significant.

Martin enlisted Number 10 with his demure, pawky wit. Beaverbrook had included in his list of proposed honours the name of a businessman whose reputation in the City was hardly spotless. Beaverbrook saw his list on a desk in Downing Street. Opposite the businessman's name, Martin had written in pencil "The fountain of honour is not a laundry." One Son of the Manse was not amused.

One day when it was all over, I reminded Martin of the letters of resignation, with which Beaverbrook, under the strain of war, used to bombard Churchill. "There were, in all, 13," I said. "Fifteen," said Martin, accurate in all things.

Of Beaverbrook, Colville writes knowingly and with affection, noting the man's strengths, which were many, and his weakness, which was rancour. The

famous vendetta against Ernie Bevin is mentioned; it was a contest between two equally matched gladiators and was, in fact, won by Bevin. The still more savage vendetta against Mountbatten is only noticed by implication.



Sir John Colville: the Winston handwagon

As some men are buoyed up by love, Beaverbrook's flame was re-kindled by jets of hatred. For him, politics were serious, to be conducted with venom, as if he were defending the last Wee Free Kirk against the hordes of Episcopacy. Vindictiveness was, however, a flaw in the man which his mistress had in mind when she said, "Max is a great little man," giving equal weight to both adjectives.

When it came to a sustained feud, few could surpass Lord

Cherwell, one of the most faithful and enigmatic of the Churchillians, who had "a beautiful temper" (Bevin said) and was, on a par intellectually with the great Lord Rutherford, in the opinion of his deadly enemy, Sir Henry Hizard. The power struggle between these two scientists is one of the deadliest of all the subterranean duels of the period.

Cherwell, who loved Dukes as much as he hated Germans, met Churchill "at Westminster's house and became his devoted slave. It was a strange deviation in Cherwell, a vegetarian, non-smoking bachelor, living largely on the white of eggs, with the aloofness and mental acerbity of his kind. But Churchill had, through life, power to command the affection of the most disparate individuals, alike only in their possession of unusual gifts."

The terms of serving him were hard but the rewards—especially that of proximity to an eccentric genius—were high. At Christmas, 1940, it was suggested that The Private Office should have a few days leave. The most Churchill would concede was an hour and a half off for Divine Service. Leaving for Chequers, he wished them all a busy Christmas and a frantic New Year. Somehow, the phrase tells a true deal about an extraordinary man and a remarkable company of men.

Intensely readable, usually correct—but surely it was of Nye Bevan and not Herbert Morrison that Ernie made his most famous remark? Told that Nye was his own worst enemy, he said, "Not while I'm alive, he ain't." Colville's is a book with an obvious destination.

The shelf of Churchillians, already the longest in my study, must somehow make room for one more arrival.

## CHESS

LEONARD BARDEN

A PIONEERING and historic venture last month was the tour of China by a six-man British team, the first such by a European country. They and the six leading Chinese masters competed in an individual tournament (category 6 international status) played in Shanghai, Peking and Canton.

## BRIDGE

E. P. C. COTTER

ANOTHER BOOK from the pen of Victor Mollo, *Streamline Your Card Play* (Pelham Books £7.95), has recently been published. Every facet of card play, we are told, in attack and defence comes under the spotlight, and the large number of hands presented would substantiate this. The reader is asked questions about each hand, and if he gives the wrong answers, he finds his mistakes explained and corrected.

Let us start with an old friend, Finesse:

N  
♠ 7 4 2  
♥ A 2  
♦ Q 10 5 4  
♣ 5 4 2

W  
♠ 9 8  
♥ K Q J 8 3  
♦ 10 7 6 5 4  
♣ Q 10 6

E  
♠ 10 6 5 3  
♥ 10 7 6 5 4  
♦ 8  
♣ 9 8 7

South deals at game to North-South, and bids two hearts, West overalls with two spades, North raises to three hearts, and South says three spades. North replied with four hearts, and South now said four spades. After North's sign-off of five diamonds, South settled for six diamonds, and that concluded the auction.

The Ace of hearts wins West's lead of the King, the two of hearts is ruffed high in hand, Trumps are drawn with Ace and Queen, then dummy's two of clubs is led. If East produces the six, South follows with the three, knowing that West must overtake, and be employed. If East plays any other low card, South cashes Ace and King, West, who has no good defence,

Results where British players met Chinese were extracted and the totals used to decide a national match series. China won the match 183-173, but Robert Bellin, the 1979 British champion, won the individual event by a wide margin.

Scores were Bellin 84 out of 11, Liang, Liu and Speelman 7, Keene 6, Chen 6, Li and Pritchett 5, Qi 4, Zhang 3, Lamford 3 and Blackstock 2.

Though Chinese chess compares in antiquity with Western game, its rules have only a sketchy resemblance. The board is nine squares by eight, several pieces have

crosses to the table, and leads a third club. If East follows either with the Queen or a low card, the contract is safe, for one of dummy's spades can be thrown on the fourth club.

If West turns up with four clubs to the Queen, including the six, the declarer has to fall back on the spade finesse. If that, too, is wrong, he is indeed unlucky.

Here we are taught the Simple, or Positional, Squeeze:

N  
♠ J 7 5  
♥ 10 5 4  
♦ A 8 2  
♣ K 6 3 2

W  
♠ K Q 10 8 3  
♥ 7  
♦ K 10 9 5  
♣ J 8

E  
♠ 6 4 2  
♥ 9 6  
♦ J 7 6 3  
♣ Q 8 5 4

South deals at game to North-South, and bids two hearts, West overalls with two spades, North raises to three hearts, and South says three spades. North replied with four hearts, and South now said four spades. After North's sign-off of five diamonds, South settled for six diamonds, and that concluded the auction.

West leads the spade King, and the Ace wins. Declarer draws the trumps with Ace and 10, and returns the two of clubs, covering East's four with his seven, and losing to the eight. This ducking manoeuvre has a dual purpose—if the clubs break 3-3, 12 tricks are gathered in; if they do not, the count has been rectified for a squeeze against West, should he hold the diamond King in addition to the King, Queen of spades. It is essential that the first club should be lost to West, in order to avoid a diamond switch from East which would destroy the squeeze.

In the three-card ending West holds spade Queen, and King, 10 of diamonds, dummy has spade Knave, and Ace, eight of diamonds, while declarer has heart eight, and Queen, four of diamonds, South leads his last trump, and the screw turns on West, who has no good defence,

different moves, and pawns cannot promote. Partly because of China's geographical isolation, Chinese chess has never taken root elsewhere and equally it is only since World War II that international chess has become popular in China.

Just how and when they developed strong players is not clear. As recently as 1954 a Chinese representative took part in a small tournament in Mongolia (where Western chess became established under Soviet influence) and finished an ignominious last. In the late 1950s a team of USSR masters gave displays and lectures, but these contacts ceased along with the political schism. International chess still continued to make ground until the Cultural Revolution brought a fresh setback. The Chinese team in the recent match included some players in their early thirties and some new talents around age 20; but there was no middle generation.

Sponsored and conceived by British Caledonian Airways and publishers Batsford, the recent tour widened British chess horizons while advancing China's contacts with organised world play. Individual wins against grandmasters in 1978 and 1979 already demonstrated their ability, and they are formidable at home for obvious reasons.

The tourists had to contend with travel fatigue, trips along the Great Wall, and banquets of up to 19 courses.

But despite the strong opposition and the handicap of being fated guests, was it really necessary for Britain to lose? England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland are normally separate chess units, though there have been occasional combined teams. In this case the two bottom players totalled, between them, three out of 12 against the

Chinese. The selectors could have chosen young English talents like Ian Wells or Davies, rising Scots like Condie or McNab, or any of a dozen experienced masters who on known form would have done better. It would be interesting to see the Chinese here for a return series, meeting a British team without obvious weak links.

Enough is known about the Chinese style to isolate its strengths: tactical alertness, resource under pressure, absence of big name fear. They are less impressive in opening knowledge and strategic planning; hence their occasional spectacular wins (as in this week's game) rather than overall good results.

White: Jon Speelman (Britain), Black: Liu Wenzhe (China). Sicilian Defence, Dragon (Shanghai 1981).

1 N-KB3, P-QB4: 2 P-K4, N-QB3: 3 P-Q4, P-P: 4 N-KP, N-B3: 5 N-QB3, P-Q3: 6 P-KN3, B-N5: 7 P-B3, B-Q2: 8 B-K3, P-KN3: 9 Q-Q2, B-N2: 10 B-Q, Q-Q: 11 P-KR4, B-B1: 12 P-KN4, P-KR4: 13 B-K2.

All book so far, but this strong new idea aims to open up the KN file quickly.

13... N-K4: 14 P-KP, N-KP: 15 QR-N1, N-QB5: 16 B-KN, R-K3: 17 B-N5 (threatening R-N and R-N1 with a winning attack), R-B4: 18 N-Q5, P-K3: 19 P-KN, P-N3: 20 R-KP, R-N3: 21 P-KR, R-K1: 22 P-R5, Q-N3: 23 P-B3, Q-R4: 24 P-KP, Q-RP: 25 P-KP, ch.

Speelman's innovation has won a pawn, but Liu has ingeniously kept the game going. Now one weak move swings the position right round; 25 R-N1 is correct.

25... N-KP: 26 N-B2, B-B4: 27 B-R6, B-B3: 28 B-N5, R-K1: 29 Resigns (29 QxR, BxR ch).

White: Jon Speelman (Britain), Black: Liu Wenzhe (China). Sicilian Defence, Dragon (Shanghai 1981).

1 N-KB3, P-QB4: 2 P-K4, N-QB3: 3 P-Q4, P-P: 4 N-KP, N-B3: 5 N-QB3, P-Q3: 6 P-KN3, B-N5: 7 P-B3, B-Q2: 8 B-K3, P-KN3: 9 Q-Q2, B-N2: 10 B-Q, Q-Q: 11 P-KR4, B-B1: 12 P-KN4, P-KR4: 13 B-K2.

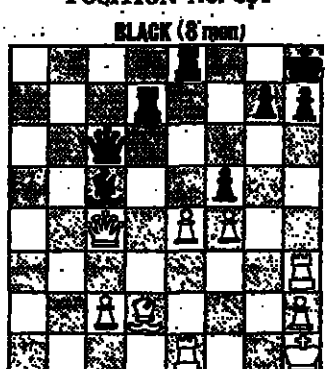
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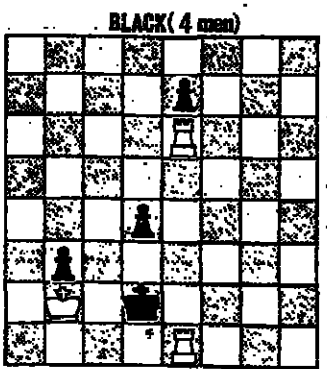
25... N-KP: 26 N-B2, B-B4: 27 B-R6, B-B3: 28 B-N5, R-K1: 29 Resigns (29 QxR, BxR ch).

## POSITION No. 364



WHITE (9 men)

## PROBLEM No. 364



WHITE (3 men)

D. B. Lund v. M. J. Franklin, City of London Open 1981. White (to move) is a pawn up, and decided to strengthen the pressure by 1 B-N4 pinning Black's bishop against the queen. Was he right?

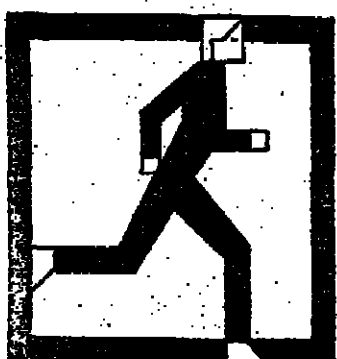
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Solutions Page 12



## HOW TO SPEND IT

by Lucia van der Post



THE BRIEFCASE, for those who hadn't noticed, is changing its image. To most of us it's nothing more than a portable desk. Today, it's becoming something of a travelling gym. Snap open the coded locks these days and you're quite likely to find track shoes or swimming gear lurking beneath the obligatory boardroom minutes, FT and furled umbrella.

It's just one more sign, were it needed, that the thinking public—and office workers in particular—is taking itself more seriously on the fitness front. There's a growing wave of self preservation about. Men these days look to their figures and their fitness every inch as critically as their female counterparts.

Squash clubs, keep fit classes, swimming baths and running clubs have rarely had it so good. Fashion too, ever the sign of the times, has been in sporty mood for many seasons now.

Considerable credit for spreading the healthy word must go to the Health Education Council, which in its 12 years has distributed some 20m pieces of literature. In the past six months alone, they've had some 230,000 requests for their information booklet called *Look After Yourself*.

The pack proffers advice on giving up smoking, exercise, diet, and weight charts. Strictly not about mollycoddling yourself, becoming a fitness freak, a muscle man or an Olympic athlete. Write for a free copy to Health Education Council, Look After Yourself Pack, PO Box 1, Sudbury, Suffolk.

Keep fit fever is running high and never higher than this week-end when the first ever London marathon will be run. For all those who've longed to be fitter but somehow never got around to it

Feona McEwan offers some suggestions

## Fit for life

For those who've always wanted to get fit but not known where to start, HEC has been involved in a more ambitious, campaign itself. The London Keep Fit Campaign and designed to give anyone from five to 95 a personal challenge. Based on a series of graduated tests and exercises involving 10 sports and activities from walking to badminton, the scheme invites you to attain set standards, appropriately rewarded with bronze, silver and gold awards along the way. Don't just sit there, get fit, they say. You can do it alone, as a family, or even as an office. Get your handbook and wallchart (showing standards to be reached) by referring either to the TV Times or Kellogg's cereal packets, sponsors of the event.

On a more permanent keep fit basis, there are some 600 public leisure centres around the country run by local authorities and those who need directions to their nearest facility should contact the Sports Council Information Bureau, 70, Brompton Road, London, SW3 (Tel: 01-589 3411).

The same address is the headquarters of what must be the country's fastest growing sport—squash. The past five years have seen a remarkable doubling of clubs taking the total to more than 1,500. Write to the Squash Rackets Association enclosing £1, for the list of clubs.

A more sedate but nonetheless efficient way of keeping in good shape is with the Keep Fit Association which runs movement to music classes around the country for women of all ages. Apply to the Association at the same address again (Tel: 01-584 3271) for details of your regional organiser.

With London playing host to its first ever marathon tomorrow when some 7,500 optimists will pound through the city streets, we felt it timely to take a look at some new opportunities for taking exercise that have sprung up lately in Inner London.

An important point to remember before taking up strenuous exercise is to see a doctor first if you have doubts about your health.

Cannons, Cousin Lane, London EC4 (Tel: 01-283 0100). For those who like to take their exercise in comfort, Cannons, which opened two months ago, could be the answer. Tucked away in a spectacular setting beneath the arches of British Rail's Cannon Street station—the trains rumbling overhead are a background reminder of the fact—it was originally built by Polish prisoners of war in 1860. Run by a consortium of businessmen, the 90ft high

vaulted arches, some 4 ft thick, form an impressive roof to the American-style sports complex.

There are golf computers which gauge the angle, direction and length of a shot, video playback for self-conscious squash players and the latest American equipment. For sheer size, scope and equipment, the club must be pretty well unrivalled in the country.

Facilities include 12 squash courts, a 23-station "trynasium" (a "medieval torture chamber") and multi-purpose gyms offering badminton, tennis, volleyball, basketball, indoor hockey, even cricket nets. Perhaps the showpiece is the 20 metre pool which, it's claimed, offers the earliest swim in town, open from 6 am.

For relaxing afterwards there's a health centre complete with spa, sauna, and solarium. Unashamedly aimed at the well-heeled executive, the club boasts STX lines, Topic screen, colour TV, PA printout, two restaurants, three bars and draws its members mainly from the City—bankers, stockbrokers,

journalists and so on. Full membership is £300 plus VAT per year inclusive and facilities thereafter are free. Massage, coaching etc. are extra. Social membership is £100 a year and there are discounts for corporate membership. Guests £4 a day. Open 6 am to midnight daily, 8 am to 11 pm Saturdays and 9 am to 11 pm Sundays. City Squash, 54-5 Greenfield Road, London E1 (Tel: 01-247 6867). Now in its second year, City Squash prides itself on meeting the needs of its members which in many cases are companies. "Our members are fairly representative of the make-up of an office, of a company or of people in a street," explains director David Turner, a man who admits he has more of a head for business than an eye for a squash ball. And certainly the vast range of membership schemes stretching from a social membership at £25 plus VAT a year to £200 plus VAT for full membership, opens the doors to a wide cross section of the community.

Facilities include eight air conditioned squash courts, gym, sauna, solarium and bar serving breakfast, lunch, evening meals. Squash court fees are 75p for members, £2.75 for guests. Open from 7.30 am to 11.30 pm weekdays and 9 am to 5.30 pm weekends.

Allington Court Gymnasium, Allington Street, Victoria, London SW1 (Tel: 01-823 3647). A minute's sprint from one of the capital's busiest stations is an unobtrusive basement equipped with all you need to get into peak condition. The Allington Gym, just opened last week, is the brainchild of former solicitor Martin Hodson whose belief in fitness and business acumen have turned a disused basement into a public amenity.

He believes gyms still suffer from a poor image but a visit to Allington Street will do much to change all that. Fitness, in his view, should be a benevolent habit not a regime, as everyday as cleaning your teeth. Here it's made easy, with exercise being introduced by degrees. Each person is assessed individually by a trained instructor and a programme of exercises drawn up accordingly, which you then put into practice as frequently as you wish.

There are two main gyms, one for warming up, and the other a workshop of machines each geared to tone specific areas such as pectoral muscles, thighs, and so on. No booking is necessary. Other facilities include sauna, pool with jet-stream, optional yoga and ballet classes and health food bar. Open 7 am to 10 pm daily. Annual membership £150 plus VAT.

## FT marathon man



Peter Collins, copy reader on the Financial Times, took up running several years ago after reading an article on the subject. Here he is training for his part in the great London marathon tomorrow when he hopes to raise a considerable sum of money for Guide Dogs for the Blind

## Acting the fool

IT'S NOT too late to prepare your defences against the practical jokers who will be out in force next Wednesday, April Fools' Day. Attack is considered the best form of defence, so probably the best way of avoiding "black face soap" (32p from Hamleys of Regent Street) in the bathroom or "sneezing powder" (20p from Hamleys) at the breakfast table is to strike first.

Ever since Prince Charles a few years ago made public his penchant for practical jokes at the Palace ("Whoopee" cushions at 32p each were said to be his favourite), practical jokes have become respectable.

Numerous specialist shops have sprung up, not only in London but in most major cities, selling a variety of jokes—from plastic fried eggs to sugar spoons with holes in.

Chris Gittings, who used to work in a stockbroker's office, now runs one of the most popular joke shops in

London. Called Knutz, it is close to the new Covent Garden shopping precinct.

He suggests that the growth in popularity of jokes is a reflection of the television age where imagination is stunted and people, especially at parties—welcome the unexpected.

Most people are probably safer with mainstream jokes such as the trick brandy glass, selling at about 95p from many shops, which you can "spill" over your dinner guest without actually wasting any brandy.

Knutz also has available some sour tasting peanuts with which to discourage peanut addicts, at 49p. For those wanting to combine some purpose to their joke, Presents of Sloane Street sells a device to attach to the refrigerator door which sets off a recording device which shouts such witty remarks as "No wonder you're getting fat!" for a mere £5.95.

Among my personal

favourites are the snakes or other creatures that erupt abruptly from an innocent-looking tin of peanuts or perfume. These sell at about £2.45 from a number of shops.

Within the trade, the best selling joke is considered to be the foaming cigarette lighter. A very realistic lighter suddenly sprays forth a fountain of foam when the lighter is pressed. This costs about £5.95 with refills and, if used properly, can be very effective.

Suppliers: Hamleys of Regent Street, London, W1, has a wide selection of the pocket-money jokes; Knutz, 1 Russell Street, London, WC2 (Tel: 01-836 3117) will send jokes by first-class post on Monday which should arrive in time for the day.

Other shops with a selection of jokes include Presents, 129 Sloane Street, W1; Davaports, 51 Great Russell Street, W1; and Dilemma, 32 Thackeray Street, W8 (mail order as well).

DAVID CHURCHILL

## CAN YOU AFFORD THE RISING COST OF FUEL?

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FT28/3



## Fancy free

I'M NOT much of a knitter myself but every time I feature a knitting pattern on the page the response is tremendous. Anybody who has a penchant for sweaters of any sort or who has been ogling the kind of one-off, hand-made sweaters that fill the smarter kind of boutiques will know just how expensive any knitwear with anything special about it has become.

For that reason, Debenhams has launched a special service providing its customers with completely free knitting patterns. Not only is the pattern free but the wool needed to do the knitting is relatively inexpensive — so often the cost of the wool alone is enough to make the would-be knitter blanch.

The sweater in the picture above is V-necked but because it uses feather-light wool it has a soft and fragile air about it. The designer, Sue

Foxall, has used velvet ribbon to tie the cuffs and waist and there are no prizes for guessing who the ribbon tied at the neck reminds us of.

Kismet wool is used to make the sweater and it comes in a host of soft colours — fawn, alabaster, marble green, blue, soft pink, white, cascade, Turkish delight, freesia, lilac, toast and kahl. The total cost of making the jumper is about £10—Kismet wool is sold at 99p for a 50 gram ball.

All the other garments in the picture are also available from Debenhams—the blouse is £8.99, the shawl (in black, white or red) is £1.99. For a free copy of the pattern send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Susan King, Public Relations Department, Debenhams, 1 Welbeck Street, London W1. Mark the envelope "Kismet-Sweater offer."

## Carried away in style

LAST WEEK I showed on this page some luggage that, although nicely designed, was so inexpensive that it would not be too extravagant to think of it as almost disposable. This week I'm featuring some luggage of a very different kind. Designed by Yuki, the fashion designer whose business failed last year, it is his first commercial venture in this country since that sad event.

I am happy to report that the luggage is exquisite—so exquisite that it is really in the heirloom class and the prices are the sort that heirlooms cost.

Yuki has used very soft, light leather by Connolly in one shade only—a sort of deep cinnamon red. The leather is deep-dyed so that scratches and scuffs won't show. The linings are of satin polyester, there are solid brass fittings and each design sports a whole collection of fine detailing— from fine extra pockets and compartments to precise stitching round the borders.

Yuki has tried to rethink what luggage should be all about. He feels that in the age of easy-care clothes, when men and women travel more than ever before, they need light, beautiful luggage precisely adapted to the things they have to carry. For women, for instance, he has introduced small pockets into the handbags and executive cases that hold compacts and

lipsticks. For men, there is an executive case that has an inner compartment which will hold documents without them creasing—so one piece of luggage should carry all his overnight needs as well as the paperwork he has to carry.

The girl in the photograph below is shown with a selection of the new Yuki collection—there are 17 pieces ranging from handbags and flighbags through to fully-fledged suitcases. The handbags and the drawstring bucket bags are about £75, while a flighbag is £198, and a suitcase £232.50. For the moment the range can only be seen at the Design Centre, Haymarket, London, W1, but at the end of April the complete collection will be on sale in good-quality department stores.

The leatherware is going to be launched next week at the London Fashion Collections together with the new Yuki fashion designs. The first major task he wants to tackle is to re-establish himself on the fashion front and then he hopes to build up a selection of licensee arrangements for his designs. Already he is busily involved with several design projects in Japan, producing men's ties, handkerchiefs, children's clothes, jewellery and towels. The luggage looks like being the harbinger of better times for Yuki and if its quality is typical of what's to come, there are tempting times ahead.



## WANKIE COLLIERY COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in Zimbabwe)

## DIVIDEND NO. 113

The directors today declared an interim dividend No. 113 in respect of the year ending 31st August, 1981 of 3 cents per share, payable to shareholders registered in the books of the company at the close of business on 16th April, 1981. Dividend warrants will be posted on or about 14th May, 1981. The transfer registers in Zimbabwe, the United Kingdom and South Africa will be closed from 17th to 24th April, 1981 inclusive.

Zimbabwe non-resident shareholders' tax at the rate of 20 per cent will be deducted from the dividend where applicable.

Estimated results for the half-year ended 28th February, 1981, and the results for the previous year and corresponding previous half-year are as follows:—

	Half Year ended 28.2.81	Half Year ended 29.2.80	Year ended 31.8.80
SALES			
Coal	959 742	1 286 872	2 382 199
Coke	161 177	125 900	235 166
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Trading Profit	481	3 805	5 144
Net interest and dividends receivable	359	404	933
Profit before taxation	840	4 209	6 077
Taxation	—	1 460	1 790
Profit after taxation	840	2 749	4 287
Add: Deferred taxation no longer required (see note *)	10 900	—	—
	11 740	2 749	4 287
Extraordinary Items	1 341	—	182
—Adjustment of taxation (see note *)	1 341	—	—
—Profit on realisation of investments	—	—	182
	10 399	2 749	4 479
Less: Appropriation to general reserve	9 559	—	—
	840	2 749	4 479
Earnings per share	3.31 cents	10.85 cents	16.92 cents
Dividend per share	3 cents	4 cents	10 cents

This dividend is declared in the currency of Zimbabwe. Payments from the United Kingdom and South Africa will be made in the equivalents of the Zimbabwean value at the rates of exchange ruling at the close of business on 5th May, 1981.

## Comments on Unaudited Financial Results

Sales of coal and coke were 25 per cent and 20 per cent respectively below sales for the equivalent period last year. Failure to achieve last year's level of sales is the sole reason

for the fall in pre-tax profit. The shortfall was not due to any lack of demand for either coal or coke but was caused by industrial unrest and disruption of railway movements.

The company has applied to Government for the increase in local coal and coke prices to which it is entitled under the Coal Price Agreement with effect from April 1st, 1981. Providing this price adjustment is made timely, and coal and coke is moved as presently expected by the railways, the board of directors believes that, notwithstanding the reduction in the interim dividend, the total dividend for 1981 can be maintained at the 1980 level.

\* Shareholders have been advised of the company's appeal to the Special Court against revised tax assessments which raised an additional liability to income tax amounting to \$2 300 000 in respect of the financial years from 1975 to 1980. Of the two issues involved, one was decided in favour of the Commissioner of Taxes and the other in favour of the company. As a result, the additional amount payable by the company has been reduced to \$1 341 000 and this amount is shown as an extraordinary item in the above presentation of the half-year's results.

The capital project to open a new opencast mine has been approved by the board and by the Government and substantial capital expenditure will be incurred. As the amount of \$10 900 000 set aside for deferred taxation out of previous profits is no longer required, it has been brought back to revenue account, and after charging against it the taxation liability of \$1 341 000 explained above, the balance has been appropriated to general reserve.

By order of the board  
ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION  
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per: J. R. Parker

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Transfer Secretaries:  
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27th March, 1981

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**Companies from Florence and other Tuscan Cities to the London Fashion Exhibition**

Fourteen ready-to-wear fashion companies from Florence and other Tuscan cities, sponsored by the regional government of Tuscany, will be present at the

**LONDON FASHION EXHIBITION OLYMPIA**  
From 29th March to 1st April 1981 (Sat. 11.15)

They are: G.T.M., Migliorini E Tili, Arca and Settimo Simonini, who are showing a wide range of pants, suits, skirts and jeans. Youthful and sporty-inspired items are offered by L.C. Laurina Castagni, Linea Coppi and Re-Gon. Menno Menni and Tennar use leather for classic outfits, while Incipal shows coats, collars and hats of sheep and lamb fur. Michel, Rain, Drops, Nello Bighini and Tappino have (washed) rainwear and classic suits. Eva offers accessories in metal, fabric and reptile skin.

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## ARTS

## Women and men

BY B. A. YOUNG

When Edward Fitzgerald heard of the death of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, he said: "Thank heaven, we shall have no more *Aurora Leighs*." He couldn't foresee the swelling tide of feminism a century later. For that matter, he couldn't foresee the new medium that would bring philosophy into every home that cared to make room for it. Now, with Elizabeth Barrett Browning long dead, we have *Aurora Leigh* on Radio 3, dramatised by Micheline Wandor and directed by Liane Audin; and we can see for ourselves what it was that prompted Fitzgerald to such a discourteous obituary.

*Aurora Leigh* is a long narrative poem about a girl who, in the fashion of the time, was born of an Italian mother and a wealthy English father. When her father died, she came to England and discovered that there was an arranged marriage waiting for her, with her rich cousin Romney, the squire of Leigh Hall. Not for Aurora! She had no time for conventional wifely duties: she was a poet. "I write to live, live to write," she said, and in due course did so, and successfully, while Romney, "elbow-deep in social problems," devoted himself to good works, declined to marry the lovely widow Lady Wadsworth, and was left in the lurch at the altar.

Aurora meets Marian on the streets in Paris with a bastard son, the fruit of rape: "I claim my mother's dues by common law," she says anachronistically. Aurora takes her to the villa in Florence where, still in the fashion, she decides to pass her life. Romney calls and recounts how the good works with the lower orders that he had carried on at Leigh Hall had made him so unpopular the place had been burnt down by the villagers. Now he had come to marry Marian. But no; Marian's loyalties are confined to her child. Aurora, a matured soul, sizes the opportunity to tell Romney that now she loves him after all (perhaps it was Leap Year), and all ends happily.

If even that can be reckoned happily in this confused age. When the poem appeared, it must indeed have seemed revolutionary; today its opinions are so widely shared that we must

judge it on its poetic merits. Sarah Kestelman as Aurora and John Shrapnell as Romney read the two principal parts beautifully; but I'm afraid my reaction was much like Fitzgerald's. Ms. Browning was better at the sonnet than the romantic narrative.

Marital disturbance of a different kind in *Patterson* (which I have followed faithfully through the first six of its eight parts). I've been a founder-member of the Malcolm Bradbury Fan Club since he first began writing for *Punch* in the '50s; I loved *Eating People is Wrong*, I've laughed aloud at short stories; I only managed to see one part of *The History Man*, but it seemed pretty good to me. (Anything with Antony Sher in it is likely to seem good to me.) If Bradbury had a fault, I'd have said, it was that he seems able only to write about lecturers in English at provincial universities.

Patterson is a lecturer at a provincial university, and nicely played by Lewis Flinder. But what on earth has happened? Here are a bunch of machine-made characters engaged in trivial social situations. The absent-minded Professor Mitty is straight off the production line. Mr. Bannerli is today's replica of an earlier generation's Hurree Jamsat Ram Singh. The action centres on domestic and sexual conflict and, in lighter vein, on jokes about a borrowed lawn-mower—variations on what Malcolm Muggeridge used to call "Celia and the washing-up." The dialogue is a hopeful imitation of Kingsley Amis, seasoned with bad puns. Perhaps Professor Bradbury writes the university bit and his collaborator Christopher Bigsby adds the verbal jokes. I simply can't think how such a series found its way to Radio 3 at a peak viewing time—Radio 3, that gave us those wonderful comedies by Henry Reed half a generation ago.

Leslie Mitchell has been a radio man and a television man, but I recall him best as the voice of British Movietone News, those little information films that were the forebears of the television bulletins. His amiable autobiography, *Leslie Mitchell Reporting*, has just been published by Hutchinson at £7.95. I found it full of nostalgia.

## Gold of Asante

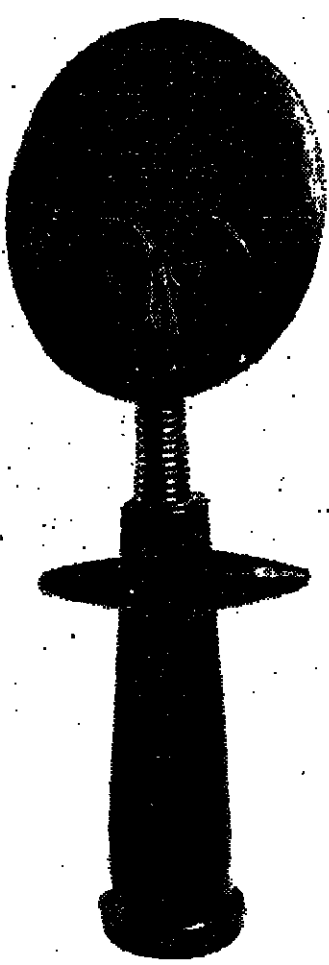
The Museum of Mankind, the offshoot of the British Museum which houses the finest ethnographic collection in the country, is the overlooked treasure trove among London's museums. It is housed in a very fine building behind the Royal Academy but can attract little or no passing trade. You need an excuse to go there and there can be no better than its current major exhibition, *Asante, Kingdom of Gold*.

This must be one of its most ambitious. Specialist shows to date and in its design and interest puts many grander, more publicised, exhibitions, to shame. Basically, it is the history of the Kingdom of Asante, in Ghana, which became a strong political force in the early 18th century only to suffer a sudden downfall with the coming of British imperialism in the 1890's.

To give the exhibition popular appeal much is made of the gold which formed the basis of Asante's expansion: it was gold, and slaves, which paid for the guns which enabled the Asante to conquer the Kingdom, to lead his intricately trained army into successful colonising wars. But although the display ends with case after case of gold objects its greatest attraction is the imaginative way in which it recreates life in West Africa in the pre-imperial period.

You enter along a jungle path with over-hanging trees. All the information is given clearly and concisely, enabling the visitor to build up a comprehensive picture of Asante village life, a picture enhanced by large blown-up photographs; the structure of a hut and its courtyard; and a wealth of objects. The small carved weights for measuring gold dust, shaped as elephants, locusts and guns have the charm of netsuke. The stools, humble in wood for the poor, rising up to the Gold Stool of the nation, which disappeared when the last Asantehene was exiled, to reappear again when the kings were restored around 1930, exhibit a utilitarian craftsmanship. There are also the black stools prepared for the dead, suitably displayed (as relics) to meet Asante susceptibility to a darkened chamber.

As you proceed through the exhibition you hear the drums which play an insistent recorded echo in the rooms which creates the courtyard of the royal palace. Asante, unfortunately, the old Asante would not have been a very good dancer. The Asante would not have been a very good dancer. The Asante would not have been a very good dancer.



A wooden fertility doll

from the jungle, with their shaded trees for gentle deliberation under; their latrines outside village limits; their network of huts and courtyards serving each family group; the artifacts such as the carved doll illustrated, carried on the backs of women to aid fertility; the sense of a community, independent but not without access to European trade goods.

But on the other hand there are the swords used in the mass executions in Kumase; the skulls of enemies attached to the drums; the competing policies of prosperity through war and expansion, or through quiet trade. All you want to know about the Asante, and you find that you do want to know quite a lot, is here presented in a most lively, informative, and balanced way.

ANTHONY THORNCROFT

## Spanish art at National Gallery

The main exhibition at the National Gallery this year will be a show of seventy Spanish paintings illustrating British trade for the art of Spain from El Greco to Goya. It will run from September 16 to November 29 and include works by El Greco, Velázquez, Murillo and Goya. Most of the paintings will be loans from private and public collections.

## The Louisville stepplechase

BY B. A. YOUNG

Jon Jory, the Producing Director of the Actors Theatre, Louisville, says it wasn't deliberate, it worked out that way; but the way this year's Festival of New American Plays worked out was to put a special emphasis on the work of the younger members of the company.

They are quite astonishingly good—astonishingly not only because they are so much better than you would expect to find in a regional theatre of this kind, but also because many of them are without the formal training young English players have. (This perhaps accounts for the excessive use of gesture.) A few have worked with the company as "apprentice actors"; some have had experience in other theatres; but whatever the source of it, the beautifully instinctive and individual playing at Louisville, stimulating and refreshing as it is, could almost be called a house style.

The overall character of the plays this year—eight productions displayed in three days, till the staff and the company had almost worn out with their endless energy—was less light-hearted than last year. In the bigger auditorium, the 600-seat Faber Brown, two of the plays dealt with magic and mythology; the third was a watered-down version of Genet. But in the small theatre, the young players romped their way through a series of plays that might have been (and indeed sometimes were) specially written for them, and they gave me endless joy.

There were a number of programmes of short plays, including a set of quarter-hour squibs that contained some very acute comic writing. The very first of them, *Proximity* by Claudia Johnson, though it deals with nothing more important than the desire for a young student for a female teacher, set the standard. The boys are played outstandingly well by Timothy Busfield (an apprentice actor last year) and Christopher W. Cooper, the one a reserved but very funny comic, the other letting his feelings hang out all round. Mr. Busfield trebled his initial good impression in two more parts, each quite different, later on. An aesthetic teacher at a casualty station in Vietnam in Jim Beavon's *Spades*, and an earnest bespectacled drama-student in a

hilarious piece by Stuart Hamble, *The Asshole Murder Case*, which left me weak with laughing.

Most notable among the girls was Lisa Goodman in an anonymous piece, a monologue by a star baton-twirler who has been twirling since she was six. The author's knowledge of twirling techniques appears to be formidable; even better, his (or her) satirical view of stardom, Miss Goodman looking like some Mexican deity from a Diego Rivera painting, was hardly recognisable as the quiet biology student we had just seen in an earlier piece dissecting a frog.

The young players were catered for again in two one-act plays by David Kranes. The first of them, *Park City, Midnight*, passed me by, since it is cast throughout in an intricate idiom where no one, not even a successful adult, ever finished a sentence. This was a pity for the company, that included Mr. Busfield and Mr. Cooper again, also had good parts for two clever actresses, Susan Cash and Laura Hicks. The second play, much better focused, examined the case of a student who has achieved a brilliant record by the use of his photographic memory. The young graduated *summa cum laude*, is confronted with the prospect of having to do original work without textbooks, and tries to take refuge in suicide until he is brought back to life by a dotty girl, Lisa Goodman again without her baton. Brian Keeler plays the student very nicely indeed.

One more programme of short plays was appropriately called *Shirts*. It started with a bucolic piece written and played by Ken Jenkins about farm-farming: it ended with a study by Mary Gallagher of two diet-obsessed women in a motel with a slice of chocolate cake lurking like a time-bomb in a drawer. A very attractive performance in this by Kathy Bates, whose fate it more usually is to be cast as a neurotic lady. To *Pharm* by Robert Watson, in the same programme, a sentimental piece about a bad mother's love for her officially adopted child, she is very moving as the mother; and in William Mastrosimone's *Extremities* she is a social worker off duty.

Well now, *Extremities*. No questions: this will be the success play of the season. Some

found the violence of the subject too much for them; feminists found it unfair to women, wrongly to my mind, for the moral of the piece, emphasised throughout, is that women who have been raped may have a hard time proving it. The movie rights have gone already. There is only one set, the cast is 1m. 3f. How can it fail?

A man comes to the house which Marge shares with two other girls, neither of them at home, and tries to rape her. She fights him off with insect-spray in the eyes and ties him up with a sock round his neck. She knows, and the man keeps reminding her, that if she calls the cops there is no way she can prove assault, and she decides that the only possible course is to kill the man and bury him in the garden. The problem involves the two other girls when they come home from work, and continues with the tension never relaxed for a moment until a conclusion that is in accord with Marge's approach, rather than her friends' more liberal ideas.

There are moments when Mr. Mastrosimone gives way to a weakness for poetry or melo drama that does not accord with the gritty reality of the best parts of the play. The writing is mostly first-class, especially for the rapist, an instant practical liar of formidable talent. He is magnificently played by Damon Stone, and Ellen Barber as Marge is a match for him: wild-eyed but cold-hearted fury determined not "to become a parish because he touched me." Peggy Price and Kathy Bates are the two other women.

Also in the small theatre was Martin Epstein's *Autobiography of a Pearl Diver*, imported from the Magic Theatre of San Francisco. This is a pleasant domestic piece about three selfish men: one whose son has cut himself off from his family (except to report on a post-card that he works as a pearl-diver) and whose wife tries to kill herself as his birthday present; one, a cop, who believes that women are for him to use as needed; and one whose wife has walked out because he won't give her a child. The three threads are neatly knit together in a well-developed act that is suddenly interrupted by a fantasy scene, a pearl-diver, the stage ingeniously transferred to the bottom of the sea so that the

father can cut the boy's lifeline and send his brother with him. American casual workers will know that pearl-divers are washed-up in restaurants.

I must admit that I didn't enjoy any of the three plays shown in the bigger house. Last year's comedy is replaced this year by ethnological magic and a mythology in two plays and a thin derivative of Genet in the third. Paul D'Andrea was joint-winner of the Great American Play Contest with *A Full Length Portrait of America*, which suggests that the play was mostly influenced by the title. The features in his portrait are two 70-year-old black jazz musicians and an Indian girl truck-driver and a ruthless white prospector who, while professing friendship for the others, is secretly operating a huge spectral bulldozer with which he is laying waste to America and infecting it with a fatal mood of bitterness.

The symbols may well be properly chosen; the use made of them is not. The thing is submerged under a wash of bad poetry that on the night I was there brought laughter from the audience. The Indian girl's name is Tuli Latum, a professional joke that must surely belong somewhere else.

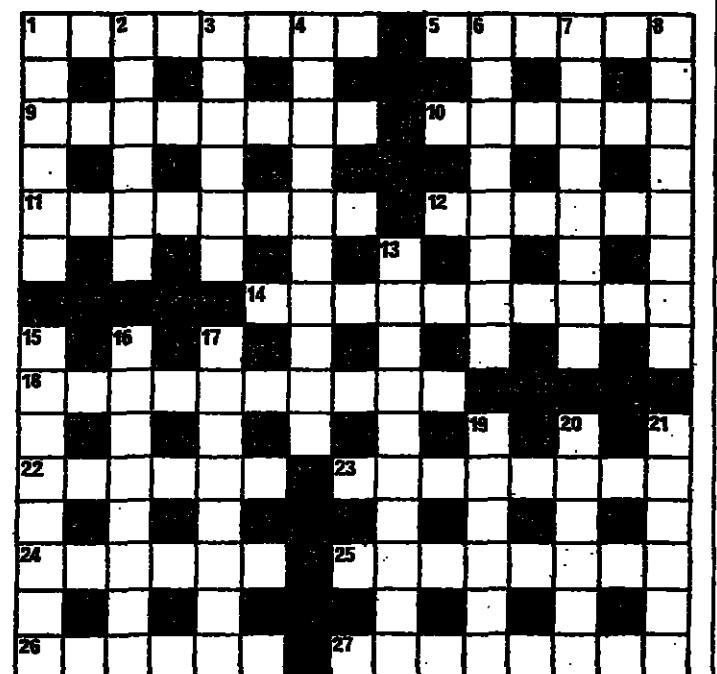
More ethnology in *Swoon*, by Ken Jenkins, it's about yendetta in a remote little town in South Central Kentucky. There's a wooden Indian that comes to life; there's an old man who dances with animals in the woods. Had enough? So had I. Mr. Jenkins and Andy Backer as two oldsters exchanging a cracked barrel with the only worthwhile parts and play them nicely enough.

The third play in the Pamela Brown was *My Sister in this House*, by Wendy Kesselman, which is nothing more than a long-winded version of Genet's *Les Bonnes*, broken down into innumerable small scenes of which only one, the murder of the mother, has any intrinsic interest in it. But the hero of the Pamela Brown, Paul Owen, shows up well. He is the designer of all the productions. In the large house he builds up big multiple sets where successive scenes are picked out by the lighting. In the Victor Jory, a very difficult stage with a shortage of ensembles, he uses a permanent plywood traverse across the back that gives him a small inner stage and is most ingeniously used.

## F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 4,531

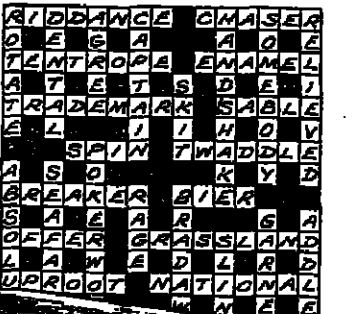
A prize of £10 will be given to each of the senders of the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions must be received by next Thursday, marked Crossword in the top left-hand corner of the envelope, and addressed to the Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, London, EC4A 3DF. Winners and solution will be given next Saturday.

Name .....  
Address .....



- ACROSS
- For remoteness, I stand corrected at church (8)
  - Pleasant walk near Ambleside's centre (6)
  - Critical time for a union (5)
  - Boycott can keep one busy (8)
  - Virtue's first in a girl like this (8)
  - Fine ship on rough seas (8)
  - Victim of sororal oppression, recalled in transformation effect (10)
  - Ladylike? Me—a fifteen sort (10)
  - Take cover (6)
  - Prior is clergyman in religious environment (8)
  - It's on record as being a set routine (6)
  - Is charm a blend of it? (8)
  - Send up topos waiters for a change (6)
  - Starting price advance I would shorten—with brilliant outcome (8)
- DOWN
- Fickle jade seen in Paris—not for the first time, one feels (4, 2)
  - Guard despatched by rail (6)
  - Building society member over the edge in Ireland (6)
  - Pinks in motor races (10)
  - France's try frequently off the line (8)
  - But for clangers, they could develop people (3, 5)
  - The civilisation which gave us centaurs? (8)
  - Poet of organ-conductor? (10)
  - Throats round wild geese in B.L.s. (8)
  - Branch it is right to fire (8)
  - Serial reformer I, parliamentarian and traveller (8)
  - Opposed to a stanza? (6)
  - Nicely placed to make most of deposit (6)
  - Man is one, in spite of Donne's statement (6)

Solution to Puzzle No. 4,530



## TV/Radio

## BBC 1

9.05 am Swim. 9.30 Multi-coloured Swap Shop. 12.12 pm Weather.

12.15 Grandstand: Football Focus (12.20); Marathon Preview (12.25); Boxing (1.5); Badminton (1.30, 2.10, 2.40); Racine from Newbury (1.50, 2.20, 3.00); Flat Race Preview (3.20); 3.45 Half-time Football Scores; Rugby League (3.50); 4.40 Final Score.

5.10 The Dukes of Hazard. 6.10 News. 6.10 Sport/Regional News. 6.15 Jim'll Fix It. 6.55 The Little and Large Show.

7.25 The Saturday Film: "The Sunnyside" starring Ron Leibman. 8.55 Dallas. 9.45 News and Sport. 10.00 Parkinson. 10.00 Le's Scare Jessica To Death.

All Regions as BBC 1 except as follows:—

Cymru/Wales—6.10-6.15 pm Sports News Wales. 12.35 am News and Weather for Wales. Scotland—4.55-5.10 pm Scoreboard (1). 6.10-6.15 pm Scoreboard (2). 12.35 am News and Weather for Scotland. Northern Ireland—5.05-5.10 pm Scoreboard. 6.10-6.15 pm Northern Ireland News. 12.35 am News and Weather for Northern Ireland. England—6.10-6.15 pm (South-West only) Saturday Spotlight.

## BBC 2

7.40 am-1.55 pm Open University. 12.10 Saturday Cinema (1): "Smart Money," starring Edward G. Robinson and James Cagney. 3.30 Saturday Cinema (2): "Hollywood Canteen," starring Joan Leslie. 5.55 Did You See? 6.30 Live from The Met: "La Traviata" by Giuseppe Verdi (simultaneous broadcast in conjunction with Radio 3). 7.10 News and Sport. 7.35 Arena. 8.55 "La Traviata," Act 3. 9.35 Test, part 1. The Old Grey Whistle Test, part 1. 10.40 Badminton: John Player All England Championships.

## ATV

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## CHANNEL

5.42 pm Puffin's Place. SHIRLEYA. 5.42 pm Puffin's Place. 7.37 TV Movie: "Slade," starring Glenn Ford. 10.30 Shoot. 11.30 1981. 12.30 Sports. 11.35 Veggie.

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## GRANADA

9.15 am No Need to Shout. 9.40 Numbers at Work. 10.05 Bailey's Bird.

## LONDON

9.25 am Cartoon Time. 9.35 Sesame Street. 9.35 Chopper Squad. 10.30 Tiswas. 12.30 pm World of Sport. 12.35 On the Ball. 1.00 International Sports Special (Part 1): Gymnastics from Madison Square Garden, New York; 1.15 News; 1.20 The ITV Six from Doncaster and Hexham; 1.30 International Sports Special (Part 2): Challenge for Survival—Hang Gliding from Mount McKinley, Alaska, plus Kayaking from Colorado; 3.30 Half-time Football Scores; 4.00 Wrestling; 4.50 Results Service. 5.05 Punctures! 5.35 News. 5.40 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century. 6.25 "How Sweet It Is!" starring James Garner, Debbie Reynolds and Maurice Ronet. 9.15 The Professionals. 10.15 News. 10.30 The Big Match. 11.30 The Patrick Starvo Show with Patrick Starvo, Juliet Prowse and Sacha Distel. 12.30 am Close: Personal Choice with Sir Geoffrey Jackson. All IBA Regions as London except at the following times:—

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11.05 News on 2. 11.10 Bartok Centenary. 11.55 The Old Grey Whistle Test, part 2.

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## FINANCIAL TIMES

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Saturday March 28 1981

## Revival, but not for jobs

IT IS definitely more than the milder weather. The markets feel it stirring, and equities have completed their strongest two-week rise for a very long time on what seems a confident note. The Chancellor, urging his strategy with a new self-confidence, must begin to feel that the reception of his Budget was simply a March phenomenon—in like a lion, out like a lamb: his Financial Secretary, Mr. Nigel Lawson, speaks confidently of output on a rising trend through the next 12 months.

Perhaps the strongest sign of this revival of confidence in the Government's basic strategy is the fate of the Government's new indexed stock. After much talk of a substantial premium ever since it was announced, it was in the event launched precisely at par, and is now expected to drift to a small discount. A guaranteed 2 per cent real return, which appears so attractive compared with the actual return on past investments in Government debt, begins to look distinctly undynamic if the real economy can be expected to deliver again.

## Forecasts

Now this burst of optimism may appear puzzling not to say heartless, in the light of some of the most recent forecasts which have appeared in print or in rumour. Private surveys of the employment market suggest that unemployment will be on a rising trend for the next 12 months, a good deal more certainly than output; and the Treasury is rumoured to have produced a gloomy figure in 1983 from a run of its economic model.

Now these projections may well prove exaggerated: unemployment rose by 1m in the past 12 months, and although it is currently rising at the same annual rate, there has been some slowing of the trend in recent months. All the same, the evidence for a forecast of rising unemployment seems a good deal more tangible than for a forecast of any sustained rise in output. Nor are the two forecasts incompatible. Joseph Lucas, the motor components group, has just simultaneously announced 4,000 further redundancies, and an end to its destocking programme. Output will rise, yet employment will fall.

Lucas could well prove a microcosm for the whole economy, for this is very much the form which should be expected for the first stages of recovery from the current slump. The pattern is inherent both in the nature of an inventory cycle, and the results of a violent competitive shock for a previously slackly-managed economy.

When manufacturers and distributors are running down stocks, orders and output are

necessarily held well below the level of sales; that is how stocks are reduced. When they have been cut to the desired level, output must be raised to meet the rate of sales; even if destocking is simply slowing down rather than stopping, some revival of output is implied. There is nothing very hazardous about forecasting a rise in output in the near future, even if there is no evidence of it yet. A rise is in the tea-leaves.

However, the market, sated with despair, may be tempted to make too much of this. The actual destocking process, intensified on this occasion by a massive shake-out of labour, has reduced the likely level of demand and sales. A gap between sales and output can unfortunately be closed by falling sales as readily as by increased production.

Meanwhile the rise in unemployment is largely due to forces far more deep-seated than the short-term impact of a monetary squeeze. The state of the British economy is over-manned and low productivity has become such a boring cliché that few people have bothered to brood about the results of doing something effective about this state of affairs. Yet that is precisely what Mrs. Thatcher has achieved through the squeeze, and especially through the rise in sterling. The shake-out on this occasion, partly through bankruptcies, is likely to be for the long term—and the labour force, meanwhile, is growing. The genuine and desperate determination to improve efficiency helps to justify both the growing optimism about output and financial prospects, and the persistent gloom about jobs.

## New ground

In these circumstances it is not surprising that the economic debate has rather suddenly shifted to new ground. Accepting, whether willingly or not, that the Government's strategy of raising taxes in order to lower interest rates is good for the economy, part of the economy, attention has shifted to the growing unproductive sector. Can idle men and resources be put to work without undoing the good which has been achieved?

There is a growing feeling, not least among Ministers, that a positive answer must be found to this question if revival is not to be bought at an unacceptable political and social cost and those public industries which have obviously bankable development projects—new communications networks, cheaper energy and the like—are the likeliest sources of help. The debate on nationalised industry financing is not a side-show, then, but a central issue in what are seen as the problems of 1981 and 1982.

THE DECISION by Grand Metropolitan, the brewing and hotels group, to invest £4.4m in Biogen NV is a comparatively rare British move to put private venture capital into the growing business of biotechnology—the harnessing of living organisms to industry.

The urge to stake an early claim in this business is worldwide, and countries are indulging in it according to their character. In Tokyo the un-sleeping Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is bringing the big chemical companies together in a "biotechnology forum," and plans to orchestrate their efforts with the help of some ¥35bn (£73m) in Government grants over the next decade. Japan is already considered world leader in the application of biotechnology.

In the U.S., small research companies, backed by private venture capital, are proliferating as fast as the microbes they are studying—there were more than 500 projects at the last count. Already fortunes have been made and lost in Wall Street on biotechnology.

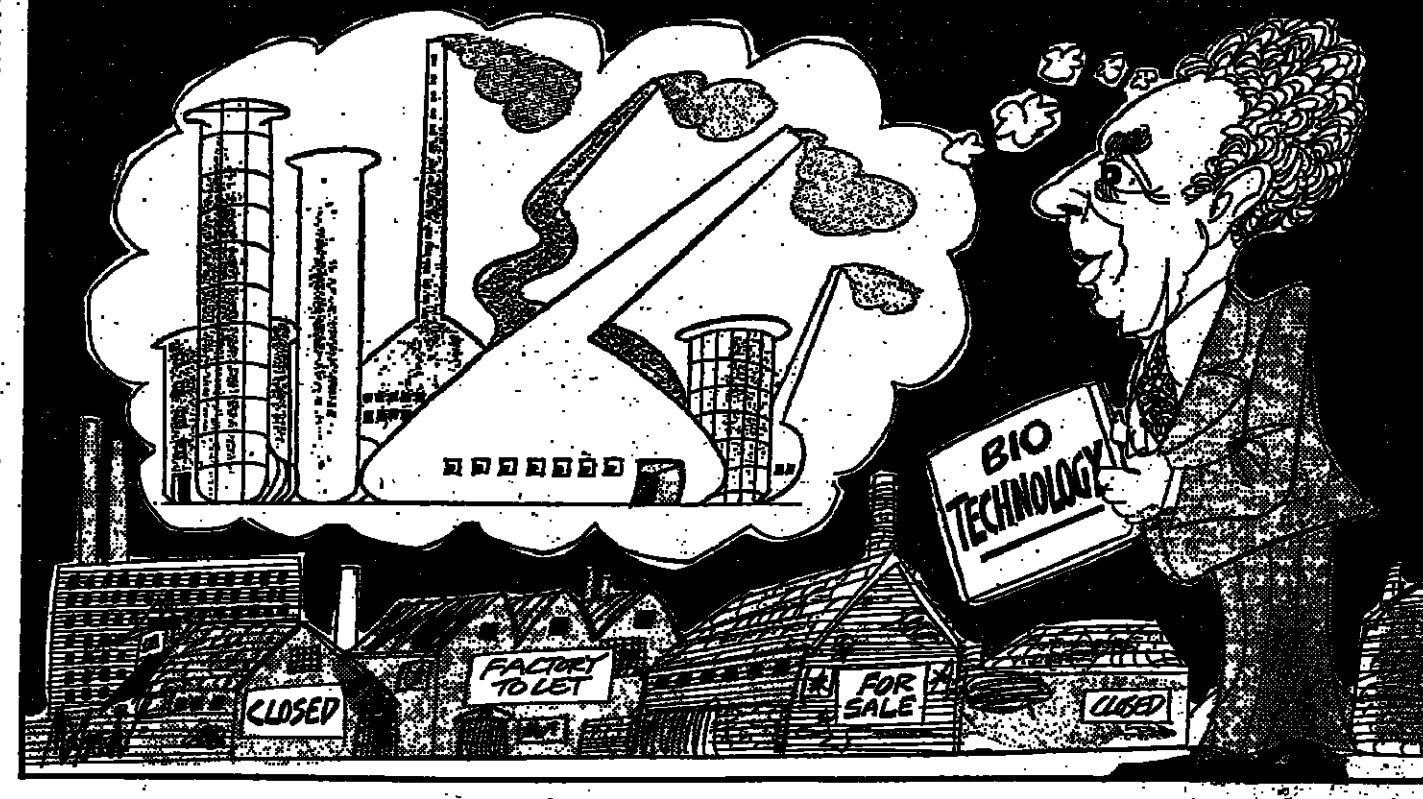
The French Government spurred industry into the field in 1979 with a report, "Science de la Vie," which bemoaned France's lack of activity in biotechnology. A rash of new ventures and alliances followed, ranging from the oil giant Elf Aquitaine to Moët-Hennessy, the champagne company. In December 1980 a report was submitted to the French Prime Minister warning that France was still falling behind not only against its American and Japanese competitors but "peut être même Britanniques." A substantial Government aid package was announced soon afterwards.

In the UK, Beecham, Glaxo and the Wellcome Foundation, ICI and Tate and Lyle, to name only a few examples—have long been exploiting biotechnology, particularly in the production of antibiotics and protein. But here, too, a substantial report commissioned by the Government and presented in March 1980 concluded that British industry was proving slow to wake up to the possibilities.

The result, characteristically, has been another ideological debate on whether it should be the Government or the private sector which gets its bio-engineering estates on. The move by Grand Metropolitan must be just the sort of news Sir Keith Joseph, Industry Secretary, wants to hear—but with a more English flavour, for Biogen is based in Switzerland and run by Americans.

A public already bemused by the rapid march of the micro-circuit now has to accept that biotechnology "will create wholly new industries, with low fossil energy demands, which will be of key importance to the world economy in the next century"—in the words of last year's Joint Working Party Report to the Government.

Some sort of analogy can be drawn between the emergence of the "chip" from traditional electronics and the emergence of biotechnology from the time honoured techniques of fermentation—brewing, bread-baking, cheese making—with which man has long put the microbe to work. In both cases, it has been a new ability to understand and hence control, the processes involved on a microscopic scale which has suddenly given each technology a revolutionary potential.



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One of the basic processes of biotechnology is fermentation—in which microbes, or the enzymes which they contain, break down existing substances and transform them into new ones. It is the ability to control this process and to predict its outcome which has given the biotechnologist his new status.

The control allows him to regard the living organism in a changed light—as part of a dependable production process. In this light the cow becomes a self-propelled, self-reproducing fermentation device genetically programmed to transform grass into milk.

It has taken the push of invention and the pull of sudden demand to propel the biotechnologist out into the commercial limelight. Two key tools have been developed for him—increasing mastery of the production and immobilisation of enzymes, and genetic engineering.

Recombinant DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) research,

Completely new industries may be created

gene splicing or genetic engineering all describe the same technique. Over the last decade scientists have discovered ways of programming microbes to synthesise particular products by inserting tailor-made genes into them. This code embodied in the long "double helix" of the DNA of the required organism and then emulating that code by recombining bits of DNA from

different origins. This recombinant DNA is inserted into a microbe and gives it the desired characteristics.

These programmed microbes can then synthesise valuable pharmaceutical products. Insulin is a prime example. This hormone has traditionally been extracted from slaughtered animals.

Now Genentech, the American biotechnology research stock which had such a sensational debut on Wall Street late last year, and Eli Lilly of the U.S. and Novo Industri of Denmark, two well established insulin producers, are all moving towards commercial production of human-style insulin by genetically-engineered microbes.

Alternatively microbes can be programmed to produce enzymes. An enzyme triggers a biological transformation in much the same way that a catalyst induces a chemical reaction—it is not consumed in the process. Till now enzymes have proved expensive to isolate and, being soluble, dif-

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## BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BRITAIN

## The germ of a revolution

By Nicholas Colchester

Biotechnology—the harnessing of living organisms in industrial processes—may soon rival the micro-circuit in importance in late-20th century technology. But while other countries have been hurrying to stake their claim, Britain, despite a long tradition in basic biotechnology, has been comparatively slow to exploit the latest advances in the science. But this week saw Grand Metropolitan moving into this area with its decision to invest £4.4m in Biogen NV.

**Grand Met invests in Biogen**  
BY ANDREW FISHER  
GRAND METROPOLITAN, the London-based brewing and hotels group, has announced that it has acquired a 10 per cent stake in Biogen NV, a small research company based in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. The move is seen as a significant step towards the commercialisation of biotechnology in Britain.

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Resource extraction. The new bio-technology development promises increasing use of long-established techniques of using microbes to extract metals from ores. Today 11-15 per cent of raw copper production in the U.S. is separated from ore in this way, and Japan is working hard in this field.

Waste treatment. Research is yielding a growing number of strains of microbes which will break down the toxic elements in industrial waste and agricultural chemicals.

Medical products. A major impulse behind the sudden wave of enthusiasm for biotechnology derives from the publicity surrounding its potential to produce interferon, a drug which has shown some signs of proving effective against cancer. Interferon is a group of substances which are generated by animal cells when they are attacked by virus. They stimulate the natural defences against such attack and, at least in the test tube, they have been observed to be active against cancer cells.

Early hopes for interferon are proving hard to justify, but the production of the drug by genetic engineering has none the less prompted intense interest. Biogen is working

towards this, as is a research project backed by the Wellcome Foundation in the UK.

It was partly the hopes for interferon which sent the shares in Genentech to double their issue price within minutes when the company went public in New York last October.

Since then a backlash of scepticism, coupled with an excess of other genetic engineering issues like Cetus Corporation (whose shares were poorly

received), has undermined the stock-market glamour of interferon. Genentech is now trading below its issue price and Cetus, the British venture in biotechnology backed by the National Enterprise Board and by City investing institutions, has said it is "steering clear of the excessively competitive interferon business."

But alongside interferon are a host of other far less contentious possibilities for the manufacture of hormones, vaccines, antibiotics and so on. The heavy biases of the world's chemical and pharmaceutical industries are trying to preserve a stake in this business. Glaxo, Hoffmann-La Roche, Hoechst, C. D. Searle, Upjohn and Takeda Chemicals.

Research in Scotland is making progress towards the production of a vaccine against Hepatitis. A West German laboratory is using techniques of genetic engineering to create improved vaccines against the foot-and-mouth virus.

A new technology with such boundless potential for good inevitably carries a commensurate potential for evil. There is something instinctively worrying about the growing ability of scientists to crack and mimic the genetic codes that create different sorts of life. There was something chilling about last year's decision by the U.S. Supreme Court which decided, narrowly, that laboratories should be allowed to patent forms of life created by genetic engineering, just like any other product. Yet this decision was clearly of vital importance to companies active in such research.

When recombinant DNA techniques became practicable in the early 1970s, the advance was widely greeted with fears that this genetic tinkering would lead to new, virulent, micro-organisms which might escape their laboratories and start epidemics. In particular there were fears that the use of sections of DNA from higher organisms would create new super-germs with hideous talents.

Evidently anxious to avoid any unnecessary restraints on genetic research in the UK, last year's Joint Working Party report to the Government noted that "as a result of work done since 1976 we now know that the assumptions underlying concern about such hazards were incorrect."

It seems that micro-organisms are not equipped to understand the genes of higher animals. In addition, specially feeble research microbes have been developed which only remain alive under laboratory conditions.

As with nuclear power, the layman can only keep his fingers crossed. He may also gain limited reassurance from the thought that the genetic engineer is still some way from cracking and emulating his own genetic code. The latest DNA synthesisers can stitch together DNA "subunits" at the rate of about 12 a day.

The chromosomes of the complete layman is estimated to consist of some 3bn DNA subunits—or seven centuries of labour at the current state of the art.

## The search for the perfect malt whisky.

For nearly two centuries in the remote Orkney Islands Highland Park has produced classical malt whisky in the most northern Scotch Whisky Distillery in the world. It is a highly individual Malt with a very definite character that age enhances into a mellow delight... SIMPLY PERFECT.



MATTHEW GLOAG & SON LIMITED, PERTH.

## Letters to the Editor

## Europe

From Mr. P. Ward

Sir,—The need for cohesion in the European Community stressed in your leader of March 23, is certainly a cause for concern. There may be secondary repercussions too, as on inward investment, Nissan for example, beginning to question the wisdom of their plans.

I always understood that the Community was established, at least in part, to create large markets, providing economies of manufacture, leading to specialisation by countries and hence to interdependence, such that Europeans may never again be tempted to fight among themselves.

Now we see the European countries fighting to preserve their indigenous automotive industries, no doubt to help protect their own steel industries, with strategic implications. During a fortnight in northern Italy, I saw very few Japanese cars and only one with an Italian registration. A base within the EEC may not always guarantee a European market. E. Peter Ward.

Trio, Carlton Road, South Godstone.

## Poets

From the Editor, New Departures

Sir,—Thanks for the sympathetic "Weekend Brief" about my literary associates and myself ("Back to the 1950s 'beat' poets," March 20)—but may I redress a slightly false emphasis? Although much of our work has carried on from "The generation of beat poets and jazz musicians of the 1950s," we are not ourselves that generation.

Jeff Nuttall (the Dr. Johnson of the alternative society), Christopher Logue (its Byron), and Heathcote Williams (Shelley), are essentially "after-beat" writers, representing cultural rebellions which

are far from "fading." So are most of the other contributors to the "Poetry Olympics" and the new issue of "New Departures," including John Cooper Clarke (widely acclaimed as poet laureate of the "punk rock" phenomenon); the Jamaican "reggae" bard Linton Kwesi Johnson; and still younger voices of the post-punk generation as well as such "oldies" as John Arden, Peter Blake, Seamus Heaney, R. D. Laing, the Liverpool poets, Frank Norman, Kathleen Raine, Stephen Spender, or the Russians Voznesensky and Yevtushenko, inter alios.

It's true that I regret the passing of the relatively halcyon mid-1960s, but the resurgence of my magazine and its concomitant public presentations should prove to be the broad continuum of the good in all the arts (rather than of the best), let alone the dead-beat generation only to whose active present and future "New Departures" remains committed.

Michael Kofowitz, New Departures, Mullions, Piedmont, Bisley, Gloucestershire.

## Partners

From the Managing Director, Russell's Rubber Company

Sir,—As a nation we have for many years occupied ourselves in cutting up and dividing the cake, instead of working aggressively towards making the cake larger and perhaps even large enough to go around. Successive governments have, of course, joined the game through the medium of tax changes. In the area of reward to labour the traditional conflict has always followed the "us and them" route, which has been reinforced by changes of tax emphasis between Conservative or Socialist governments.

It occurs to me that the situation is fundamentally changing so that the conflict is now between the private sector, particularly manufacturing, which is bleeding to death, and the public sector, which is being kept in the surroundings to which it has become accustomed, through the inability of the Government to enforce its policy of restraint where it is the employer. This inequality and potential conflict is, of course, being encouraged by trade unions through their present policy of insisting on wage settlements in the public sector, currently running at probably twice the rate of the hard-pressed private sector.

Contrary to general belief and admission, the Government does have part of the trade union leadership as a bedfellow, while the other "half" of the trade union movement has crept into

bed with the capitalists in only insisting on wage deals that can be afforded by the private employer to whom he looks for his continuing employment. I do not know quite where this moves the traditional Conservative five-pointed star, or for that matter, the Socialist-wing trade union member at the next Congress.

Maurice C. Honey, Russell's Rubber Company, Capewell Works, Hadley, Telford, Salop.

## Merging

From Mrs. J. Leahy

Sir,—I have just received a communication regarding the proposed merger of the Royal Bank of Scotland with Standard Bank. No doubt you too have a copy.

On page three under the heading "Lloyds and Scottish" I note "they will enter into negotiations on an arm's length basis." What on earth does this mean or is it common bankers' jargon? Could they enter on an "eyeball to eyeball" basis? Fascinating smiles spring to mind.

(Mrs.) Petronella Leahy, Hedges End, Above Hedges, Pitton, Nr. Salisbury, Wilts.

## Castings

From the Chairman, Birmid Quilcast (Foundries)

Sir,—I was intrigued to read the report (March 24) on the advancement of aluminium alloy casting technology and particularly the statement made that the quality of aluminium castings has to-date relied on declining craftsmanship. Clearly, the British foundry industry is having a very difficult time associated almost entirely with the state of the market.

I am not, however, aware of any slow down in the advancement of technology or, indeed, of capital investment where this proves to be justified. One has only to look at the tremendous

strides made over the last few years in the introduction of sophisticated light alloy cylinder heads to appreciate how far from the realities of life this statement is.

It is suggested that there is a world wide motor industry disillusionment with poor quality aluminium castings manufactured by conventional methods and it is by no means clear as to which conventional methods the article refers. As anyone closely connected with the industry will know, these are many and varied and we have positive evidence that the products serve many industries well.

We are, however, always willing to learn and, since orders for the new process are eagerly awaited, I trust that some of the leading British foundries will be offered the opportunity to share the new experience before developing countries are presented with yet another opportunity to flood the market with the products of state aided investment.

F. T. Davies, Birmid Quilcast (Foundries), Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands

## Pensions

From Mr. G. Loudon

Sir,—I fear that Mr. Short (March 21) could mislead the self-employed into opting for an index-linked pension against their better interests.

The article quotes, quite correctly, that on inflation rates of 5 per cent, 10 per cent and 15 per cent, an index-linked pension of £600 per annum will outstrip a level pension of £1,540 at ages 72, 75 and 85 respectively. In my contention, however, the key point is that at which total income received to date is overtaken. On this basis, even with 15 per cent inflation, the pensioner must attain the average life expectancy of 80 before he can go into profit (during the 16th year). On 10 per cent inflation the break-even point occurs

during the 23rd year and on 5 per cent inflation he must, attain the giddy age of 100.

On the face of it, the fixed 9½ per cent escalating pension appears the best bet, as this reaches the break-even point at age 79. The choice, however, is not an easy one, and is complicated by the marital status of the pensioner and his overall financial status. For example, if his level pension was about the £1,500 mark, then assuming he was single and that his only other income was the basic state pension, roughly half of his total gross income would already be inflation-proofed by the Government.

My only conclusion would be that, unless he could easily forego the higher initial payment on a level basis, he would be better to opt for a bird in the hand now rather than an uncertain number of birds some time in the future.

Graham R. Loudon, 8-10, Market Street, Newcastle upon Tyne.

## Telecom

From Mr. P. Coad

Sir,—Reading Mr. Jason Cragg's article (March 20) on British Telecom and about this subject elsewhere one gets the impression of a completely negative attitude on the part of the Treasury.

It is understandable that the Government is clearly about meeting all British Rail's demands for capital in view of the over-investment in that organisation but it seems to the layman quite dreadful that British Telecom is not allowed to obtain the finance needed for its capital programme now.

Surely it is the business of the Treasury in the interest of the country to sit down with the Department of Industry and find a way round the difficulty. If British Telecom were a public company I imagine it could get its finance tomorrow.

P. R. R. Coad, The Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.



Arthur Sandles, Travel Editor, looks at the prospects for the travel business in 1981

# British operators recover their nerve

THE BRITISH travel business— including both those who lure foreigners to our shores and those who tempt the British into sampling distant pleasures— is feeling a great deal brighter about 1981 now than it did two months ago.

The steady upward spiral of sterling's value has eased the alarms of domestic hoteliers; the pound remains healthy enough, however, not to cause too many difficulties for tour operators, except perhaps to the U.S.; the Spaniards did not take to the streets; and, above all, Prince Charles has made it a Royal Wedding year and chosen a date which could give the season a superb focus point.

Underlying the market for British travel abroad is the state of the economy. There is a huge pent-up demand for overseas travel at a time when the pound is strong, but there appears to be a diminishing number of people with enough money in their pockets to take advantage of the position.

Two other big question-marks hang over the fortunes of the package tour business this year: over-capacity, and soaring fuel prices. The first, which is perhaps more of a problem for the airlines than the operators themselves (although they are often one and the same these days), could mean spare aircraft sitting expensively on the tarmac this summer; the other almost certainly means substantial surcharges on holidays, particularly to more distant destinations.

New aircraft have been arriving for the British jet fleet in considerable numbers in the past 18 months. It has been estimated that there were 22 Boeing 737s under the British flag in 1979, that there were 36 last year, and that there will be 50 this year. Some of the new jets are in fleets which did not exist five years ago, such as those owned by Intasun and Horizon.

The aircraft were ordered at a time when optimism abounded. Few people thought the recession would last this long. Old jets were getting expensive to maintain, were over-thirty for fuel, and were making too much noise for increasingly stringent environmental regulations.

Many of the old aircraft have moved elsewhere now, but the total UK charter capacity is still somewhat larger than the market needs, except at the peak of the summer months. It could certainly handle a million or more than the 5m passengers that are likely to seek its services this year.

Tour operators these days are vastly more sophisticated in handling of these problems than was once the case, and the overall problems caused by over-capacity are not proving disastrous for the major groups. As was recently indicated in the latest Jordan Survey on the travel industry, many tour operators had splendidly profitable years last year, particularly the publicly quoted Horizon and Saga groups, and are well placed for a tougher marketing year.

In fact Jordans, while predicting a downturn in the market and acknowledging an increase in capacity, is bullish about the business generally. It argues, with considerable justification, that the tour companies will push business into their own airlines rather than share any downturn with other carriers. If this does happen it is singularly bad news for British Airways.

According to such big retail groups as Thomas Cook and Pickfords, foreign holiday bookings picked up somewhat during February after a dauntingly bleak start to the year. There has been a rush to Spain, which faces rumours of impending overbooking problems on



Journey's end: on the beach at Playa de las Canteras, Las Palmas

Majorca, but a slowing in enthusiasm for the U.S.

This latter phenomenon must be placed against two years in which traffic to the U.S. rose first by around a third and then by a further quarter.

The problem with the U.S. stems from a combination of a slightly more expensive dollar and, more seriously, sharply rising flying costs. Almost every airline is looking to increase fares to the U.S. this summer and it seems inevitable that there will be surcharging to as great an extent as booking conditions allow.

In a bid to counteract the pressure on fares, holiday rivals Sir Fredrick Laker and Mr. Reg Pycroft of Jetset are both offering price guarantees on flights where the passenger pays in full at the time of making a booking.

The major beneficiaries from this year's swings and roundabouts in the travel business are likely to be the cross-Channel ferry operators. Companies such as Canavias Holidays and Vacances Franco-Britanniques are reporting a sustained demand for their self-catering tent and cottage holidays for the British in France. With France now having a reputation for value that was once held by Britain, British families are plotting trips across the Channel in droves.

The big loser looks like being Italy, although no one in the business seems quite sure why. The Italian cities had a very bad year as far as British traffic was concerned and the ski resorts had their sales increased by the lack of snow. Bookings for the summer are less than healthy and operators are putting the blame on Italian hotel prices and the nation's growing reputation for street crime.

Within Britain itself the growing demand for middle-class self-catering. The proliferation of companies offering British cottages for summer rental is an indication of the substantial switch by relatively high income families from hotel accommodation.

The North Atlantic fare difficulties will come as bad news to British hoteliers as well, and this is likely to force the UK to look even harder to the European market for its custom (in the 1970s the U.S. share of British custom slid from 23 to 14 per cent). In this case the announcement of the Royal Wedding has come as an extremely welcome breath of relief.

Of the 143 countries of the world which are counted in tourist statistics a tiny 38 give their residents complete freedom in the purchase of foreign currency for travel. It is on these 38 that the world's travel salesmen concentrate. The biggest single market is West Germany,

## THE INTERNATIONAL SCRAMBLE

INTERNATIONALLY the scramble for tourists is taking on the dimensions of a free-for-all. As economies founder, not only the developing nations, but also the industrialised countries are looking for tourists as a source of hard currency cash flow.

OECD figures suggest that last year, while the number of international travellers rose by 7 per cent, these tourists spent less money in real terms per head—expenditure rose only by 2 per cent in real terms. In the great tourism race the winners included North America (a 12 per cent rise), France, Austria, Mexico and Switzerland.

In terms of sheer amounts of money earned from international tourism the top 10 league is headed by the U.S. (which earned \$5.3bn from foreign tourism in 1979) followed by Italy, France, Spain, the UK, West Germany, Austria, Mexico and Switzerland.

In terms of receipts per head of population, however, the picture is rather different. Heading that particular table is the Bahamas, which in 1979 received \$2,510 in foreign tourism cash for every man, woman and child in the nation. Running second was the Netherlands Antilles.

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whose residents at the last count were spending at the rate of \$18bn a year on foreign trips. This was double the U.S. figure and vastly more than the fifth ranking British who spent \$4.5bn.

In terms of spending per head of population, however, the deepest pockets are those of the Swiss, followed by the Austrians, the Norwegians, Belgians, Saudis and West Germans. In this league table the British are almost also-rans, spending less than a quarter per head of population on foreign travel than the Swiss and Austrians and less even than the Irish, the Finns and the Maltese.

Lavish parties for travel agents

The central arena for the tourism marketing war tends to be the ITB (International Tourism-Börse) which is held in Berlin each March. This year saw the market at its biggest yet with 1,217 exhibitors from 111 countries. Smaller exhibitors included two people from Abbeygate Travel in Ontario and a team of eight from the Zambia National Tourist Board. The Chinese had an unregistered group observing the marketing antics of the Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan contingents. The Americans had the biggest non-German floor space, the British put up their traditional pub, Swiss hotels threw lavish parties for travel agents at Berlin's glittering Kempinski.

Underneath the apparent frill of the ITB's social whirl was an obvious underlying desperate need for delegates to go back with signed contracts as well as

bloodshot eyes. Only part of the exhibition is open to the public, the rest is strictly trade only and with 61,284 square metres of exhibition space in use even the most superficial of tours could be an exhausting business.

One only has to look at Germany's own figures to see why even the most apparently prosperous and industrialised countries have started taking tourism seriously. Between 1970 and 1980 while Germany's GNP roughly doubled, expenditure on foreign travel went up by 367.6 per cent. In 1979 the country only received \$5.7bn in tourists' foreign currency itself, but spent nearly \$18bn on trips abroad.

The German Institute for Economic Research produced a research document recently which expressed such concern about the imbalance as to raise, albeit cautiously, the spectre of currency controls.

Salvation, however, might be found instead in an improved performance by Germany in the international tourist business. "If German holiday destinations now receive as many additional visitors as some commentators seem to expect, then we need not fear any restrictions on convertibility," says the Institute.

That is a conclusion other countries have reached too, and one that the British may have to face if the trend towards heavy spending abroad and lowered income from overseas traffic continues into the 1980s. No wonder at Berlin's ITB while one welcoming hand was passing a drink, the other would be offering a pen with which to sign the deal.

## Weekend Brief

### All quiet on one front

Political tension in Poland and cold war sabre-rattling in the Kremlin and the White House make these nail-biting times for defence experts and military planners. So it is comforting to discover that on one stretch at least of Northern Europe's border with the Soviet Union the official policy is: keep cool. Responsibility for lowering the temperature over the 123 miles of Arctic rock and snow that separate Norway from Russia belongs to two men. On the Norwegian side, Col. Hiorh Oppgaard, a large, smiling avuncular figure. On the Soviet side, Col. Yuri Obruchov, recently arrived from similar duties on the Chinese border at Alma Ata in central Asia, who is described as more "open" than his older predecessor.

Col. Obruchov and his senior KGB colleagues have just been over for one of the regular meetings between the two Border Commissioners, followed by a bit of shopping in the small mining town of Kirkenes. "People are more concerned about the weather temperature than the political temperature here," Colonel Oppgaard told me. "At the same time they are well aware that the situation could change. When something happens on the border you never know whether it's a provocation or something more serious. But our border relations don't have much connection with what is happening in the rest of the world. We only discuss war events informally at dinner after our border meetings."

The border itself is marked out with posts four metres apart—yellow for Norway and red and green for the Soviet Union. But a couple of miles inside Soviet territory is a double barbed wire fence, complete with KGB dogs, sensors, searchlights and a surp of sand to show up footprints in summer.

Between the fence and Murmansk, 80 miles away, is stationed possibly the biggest concentration of military forces in the world: 100,000 troops, 25 airfields, 600 aircraft, 400 ships and three submarines. On the Norwegian side there is only a small garrison of 500 troops. Their job is to act as a "trip wire" in the event of invasion—almost inevitable deaths their signal to the rest of the world that war had broken out. The nearest NATO forces are in Troms county, several hundred miles back from the line.

The last serious border incident was in the summer of 1968, a few months before the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. The tanks of the Soviet 45th motorised division rumbled right up to the line—a show of strength to coincide with some NATO exercises—and rumbled away again after a few days.

Although it is known to be a crossing point for secret agents, (and on one occasion for a Russian soldier seeking asylum) most of the traffic is innocent. People who cross into Russia by mistake are usually returned

In a couple of days—except for a 25-year-old American student who went over in the mid-Sixties and never came back. He was reported to have committed suicide while being transported from Murmansk to Moscow.

Every year about 1,000 Westerners, including workers from the big iron ore company in Kirkenes, go across on holiday, usually making for the Black Sea. It costs no more to fly to Odessa than to Oslo. The local used to be able to visit a small Russian enclave on the Norwegian side of the border river Orthodoxy church of Boris Gleb stands.

Their motives were not exactly devotional. The Russians had set up a bar nearby and the vodka was wonderfully cheap (whisky was "only for friends," the Russian bartender told one customer). This was too much for the Puritanical Norwegian authorities, and the enclave was put out of bounds.

### ... But a good cigar is a smoke

Expect to see a sharp eyes right from the Bowler Hat Brigade as they proceed up St. James from Pall Mall on Tuesday.

Cigar manufacturers and merchants Davidoff, whose premises occupy the corner of Jermyn Street and St. James, have teamed up with Cubatobacco, the Cuban state tobacco marketing organisation, to stage an in-store demonstration with a difference.

From next Tuesday to Saturday Cuba's star hand-roller of finest Havana's will be sitting in the window demonstrating the ancient art of cigar-rolling not, though, on her dusky thigh as her mother used to do, but on the more conventional table top of the kind now used in Cuban tobacco factories.

Her name is Emilitana Fernandez, and her intriguing act will be supported by fellow Cuban Avelino Lara, manager of Davidoff's factory in Havana and emissary special for the Cuban tobacco industry. Lara will not only be telling customers how to select and store a fine Havana, but also reassuring cigar aficionados that Cuba is back in business again.

Last year Cuba lost, through the dreaded B1 Mould leaf disease, almost 95 per cent of its total tobacco crop—and along with it a good deal of international customer loyalty and support. Fears of world shortages and the inevitable accompanying price hikes, had many buyers looking for alternative sources of supply.

But this year's Cuban crop—the last leaves are now being gathered—looks like being the most bounteous since the record-breaking harvest of 1927, and the message that Fernandez and Lara will be spreading in St. James next week is "Yes, we have some Havana."

"The traditional Havana smoker in this country is the older, richer man and because of this we have what could be described as a dying market—every time I see a hearse going past I think there goes another customer. So obviously we need to replace those customers from among the younger, poorer end of the market—the chap who currently buys the odd ordinary cigar at a restaurant or singly over the counter."

However, Chase emphasises that he does not want to convert too many of these younger, poorer cigar smokers to fine Havanas. "We certainly do not want everyone rushing in to buy Havanas—even with the bumper crop this year, demand will always exceed supply. We are currently rationing our customers to one 100 cigars apiece per purchase, and we do not expect that position to change."

### Maybe the grass is greener

There is nothing surprising about QPR's decision to replace their grass pitch at Loftus Road with a synthetic surface. The real surprise is that it has taken quite so long for a League club to make this obvious move: after all, 50 per cent of professional soccer in the U.S. takes place on synthetic pitches and what America does today, we inevitably follow a decade or so later.

An artificial grass pitch makes economic sense, especially in a period when clubs are struggling to survive. First the maintenance costs are negligible. Secondly, Rangers will be able to utilise their stadium for numerous other revenue-raising activities, which would not be feasible with a grass pitch, which needs constant care and protection. Thirdly, it provides the ideal surface to coach youngsters and to encourage football in the area by allowing matches on it.

Finally, it will allow the QPR players to do a large percentage of their training and practice on their own pitch. At the moment many players at clubs with top-class training grounds such as Aston Villa, may only go to Villa Park once a fortnight for a League match.

In addition to these practical and economic advantages another attraction is that, assuming the other League clubs agree, Rangers can scarcely fail to gain promotion next season. This would still apply, even if they did not possess an above average Second Division staff and, in Terry Venables, one of the best, and most imaginative of the young managers.

There is a real difference between football on grass and on a synthetic surface. It tends to alter the character of the game by placing greater emphasis on skill and control and less on physical contact, which must give QPR a considerable advantage over any visiting team. They ought to become virtually unbeatable at home, which will help induce that extra confidence stemming from success and which, when added to the anticipated improvement in skill, should ensure they secure sufficient away points to sustain their promotion drive.

Canadian manufacturers have as yet never laid a full-size football pitch. In consequence they still have to obtain the approval of the FA, UEFA and FIFA, but everything suggests they have found, by chance, a winner for football. Of course, this was also the case with the Astro-Turf pitch at Islington which was designed for American football, has been down for more than a decade and must easily be the most utilised soccer pitch in the history of the game.

Approval in principle is probable as various other synthetic surfaces have been recognised but it is doubtful whether European and International competition matches would be allowed to be staged on such surfaces in the foreseeable future.

### In the public interest

Six years after Franco's death the old laws for the training of journalists in Spain have been relaxed but the Press is still struggling to find its feet in a largely hostile environment. There are no journalistic "superstars" created either by the public or the establishment and this, by the way, is one area where neighbouring Portugal is more advanced than Spain: at least the Portuguese Prime Minister is a journalist.

Earlier this month, at the height of the most dangerous threat to Spanish democracy since the death of Franco, Juan Luis Cebrian, the editor of El Pais, Spain's leading daily newspaper, sat up all night. Co-ordinating special editions, giving a blow by blow account of the coup attempt by sectors of the armed forces, Cebrian then wrote an editorial comment.

At a moment when it was still unclear how the coup would resolve itself, Cebrian's hard hitting editorial against the generals was a piece of singular courage. Had the coup succeeded Cebrian could well be a dead man by now. Cebrian also proved himself a great deal more courageous than some of his more esteemed fellow Spaniards: in the Basque country and in Catalonia most leading politicians either went underground or fled across the border as soon as the Civil Guard occupied the Spanish parliament.

This week with the first coup attempt stopped dead in its tracks but with the prospect of another not so unimaginable, Cebrian, in common with the large majority of the Spanish press again put his life on the line.

Ignoring the view of the Government and many Opposition leaders that the best way to assuage the military was to keep quiet about them, Cebrian agreed to publish a parliamentary "leak" detailing the coup attempt. He claimed that if it was not in the general's interest leading it was certainly in the public interest. Cebrian has not been honoured for his efforts, and he would probably prefer it that way given his staunchly independent spirit. But he has certainly deserved his own journalistic stars.

Contributors:  
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5. I declare that I am not a member of any other life insurance company or society and I have not been a member of any other life insurance company or society within the last 10 years.

Signature of Proposer and Life to be Assured

Date

FT 28281



## Companies and Markets

## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Reed buys local paper group from News Int.

Reed International has agreed to buy Berrow's Organisation, a publisher of local newspapers in the South Midlands, Somerset and Wiltshire, from News International.

Reed will pay for Berrow's by issuing 4.7m of its shares to News. At yesterday's closing Reed share price was 220p, this would value the deal at over £10.6m.

Berrow's turnover last year was around £11m, with unaudited pre-tax profits totalling £1.56m. The sale will conditional on consent being received from the Secretary of State for Trade under the Fair Trading Act.

## Lyon &amp; Lyon falls

Taxable profits of Lyon and Lyon fell from £779,742 to £513,664 for 1980, on turnover of £9.8m (1979: £10.5m).

The group, which has interests ranging from road haulage and vehicle repair to shipbuilding, is paying a final dividend of 4.5p, reducing the net total for the year from 7p to 6p. Earnings per 25p share were down from 13.2p to 10.4p.

Tax took £71,995 (£190,763), after transferring £241,000 from deferred tax (£328,800 to 0) and there was an extraordinary credit of £348,948 (debit £15,205), leaving an increased attributable profit of £390,515 (£573,774).

On a current cost basis, pre-tax earnings were £206,000 (£284,000).

## Assoc. Fisheries

MR. HAUGHTON FITZGERALD, chairman of Associated Fisheries, told the annual meeting that the group remained in profit in the current year. But he said he could not offer a reliable forecast of the final result.

Despite the cutback in the operations of British United Fishers the company was still increasing its turnover in the current year. The chairman said that in common with the rest of the industry "we are urgently looking to Government for immediate financial aid to alleviate the position."

Mr. Fitzgerald said that the group was in a much stronger financial position than a year ago and in the last six months there had been considerable further improvement. Bank debt had been entirely eliminated and the group was currently in overall credit to the extent of over £1.5m.

## Wombwell in loss

Depressed trading conditions pushed Wombwell Foundry and Engineering of Barnsley deeper into the red, with losses for the half year to January 1, 1981, increasing to £107,780 from £88,978. Turnover fell from £3.73m to £2.97m.

The group is not paying an interim dividend. Last year's interim was 0.374p but the final was omitted.

The pre-tax surplus was after financial charges of £194,655 (£27,755). After tax credits of £228,045 (£34,262), minorities of £1,886 (nil) and an extraordinary debit of £60,500 (£31,900), the attributable loss was £314,565 (£52,218).

## Catalin shows loss

Catalin, Essex-based manufacturer of industrial resins and resin treated papers, plunged to a pre-tax loss of £575,781 including a loss attributable to its UK subsidiaries of £398,180.

The group showed a profit of £424,793 the previous year.

Turnover fell from £9.38m to £7.43m and there was a tax credit of £303,503, against a charge last time of £219,829.

The dividend for the year has been omitted. In 1979, the net total payment was 3.347p.

## Firman &amp; Sons

Struck this time after £35,000 cost of redundancies, pre-tax profits of Firman and Sons, maker of badges, buttons and military ornaments, fell from £378,000 to £334,000 for 1980, on turnover of £2.21m (£1.9m).

CCA taxable profits were down from £249,000 to £132,000.

After tax of £85,000 (£137,000) earnings per 25p share were up 0.3p to 9.6p and a final dividend of 2.5p raises the net total payout to 3.5p (3p).

## Gestetner setback

First-quarter profits of Gestetner Holdings were lower than for the corresponding period a year ago. Mr. David Gestetner, joint chairman, told shareholders at its annual meeting.

Although returns for January showed an improvement, the rise in turnover in the first three months was insufficient to cover increased costs. However, sales of plain paper copiers continued to grow, and placements were 40 per cent up in the quarter.

Mr. Gestetner said the strength or weakness of sterling would play a large part in the group's results for the remainder of the year. Pre-tax profits for the whole of 1979/80 were £16,322m, down from £18.35m.

## Midland News ahead

Taxable profits of Midland News Association, newspaper publisher, increased to £3.29m for the 53 weeks to the end of 1980, compared with £2.66m the previous year. The tax charge was reduced from £1.19m to £683,000.

The group is paying the following dividends: restricted ordinary shares—8.75 per cent (same); non-voting ordinary shares—7.25 per cent (27.25 per cent); and "A" ordinary shares—23 per cent (18 per cent).

## Cope Allman plunges to midway loss

A SIGNIFICANT decline in orders has combined with surging interest charges to push Cope Allman International nearly £1m into the red for the half year to December 31, 1980, and the group is omitting its interim dividend.

On sales of £7.56m, the 201,560 operating profits plunged from £7.65m to £2.36m, and interest charges of £3.21m against £1.94m left a pre-tax loss of £9.95m, compared with a profit last time of £5.71m.

The directors of the group, whose interests include engineering, packaging and the manufacture and hire of amusement machines, say they do not expect any major improvement until after the end of the current year. Profits for the last full year were £11.15m.

After six months' tax of £33,000 (£15,44m) and minorities' profits of £3,000 (£259,000), the attributable loss emerges at £1.04m, against £1.32m. The stated loss per 5p share is 2.62p (9.16p earnings).

The directors say they are expecting the existing programme for reshaping the group and accelerating the planned disposal of those companies unlikely to meet financial criteria.

The workforce was cut by some 13 per cent in the first half. This and reductions in manufacturing capacity and costs, resulted in a charge of £0.8m against profits.

The fall in turnover was worst in the packaging division, where sales declined from £41.55m to £31.15m and an operating loss of £1.9m was suffered, compared with a profit last time of £2.84m.

Cosmetic containers were particularly badly hit, say the directors, with orders down 34 per cent.

In the leisure division, profits edged ahead to £2.95m (£2.84m) on sales of £22m (£17.85m). The UK amusement machine hire companies held their own, but uncertainty preceding the recent Government announcement of an increase in permitted levels of stakes and prizes depressed sales by the manufacturing company in the "second" quarter.

The leisure division has, however, experienced an upturn in business since mid-February, when the increased stakes and prizes came into effect.

Operating profits and sales of the group's other divisions were: engineering £0.31m (£1.24m) and £1.78m (£1.62m); fashion £1.01m (£1.21m) and £1.32m (£1.98m); Capsules Group £0.25m (£0.57m) and £1.02m (£1.62m).

Borrowings will increase during the current year to meet the cost of remedial action as the group moves into the higher technology areas of industries in which the group operates, state the directors.

This means the target equity/debt ratio of 60:40 will be exceeded at the year end, but they say they are satisfied that cash facilities available are adequate to meet foreseeable financing requirements.

Consideration will be given to the payment of a dividend for the year in the light of profit and trading in the second half, say the directors, adding that they believe it would be wrong to make an interim payment unsupported by a first-half profit. Last year's total payout was 4.885p net.

Profits of Capsules, a 59.15 per cent-owned Cope Allman subsidiary, plunged from £287,000 to £88,000 in the first half and Mr. Andrew Chapman, the chairman, says the full year's profits will be well below the £1.9m reported for 1979/80.

As stated at the AGM in November, the board intends to maintain the 1980/81 dividend at the previous year's level and accordingly, the interim is being kept at 1.5p net—the final last time was 1.8p.

During the six months, £1.15m was spent on fixed assets. Interest charges leapt from £15,000 to £158,000.

## comment

Cope Allman has run into some very severe problems. It has

just had a disastrous year which featured a £5.6m downturn into the red. The packaging division fell through the floor, scoring a £1.9m loss against a £1.8m profit in the first half of last year—this is largely because of the troubled cosmetic container business, which has just made 400 workers redundant. The group has shed 1,300 workers in the six-month period and could lose a further 400 in the second half. The key problem is the poor state of retail-linked packaging companies. But Cope's woes go beyond this. Its engineering division has seen profits fall away to 25 per cent of its 1980 first half and it is possible that there will be self-inflicted wounds in the mechanical engineering business. There could also be small problems in the fashion division.

The separate Capsules business saw its margins vanquished and made no pre-tax contribution worth mentioning. Cope's group gearing level is a very unpleasant 78 per cent, interest payments are up 66 per cent in the first half and by the end of the current year the group will be lucky to do much more than break even at the pre-tax level. The one bright spot is the leisure division, but one division cannot support the whole group.

## Ibstock

## Johnsen tumbles to £2.2m

PRE-TAX profits of Ibstock Johnsen fell sharply from £4.68m to £2.16m for 1980, struck after interest charges 50 per cent higher at £3.26m. At halfway, taxable surplus had dropped from £1.31m to £0.85m.

Turnover for the year improved from £53.94m to £57.57m, but trading profits were down to £5.33m (£5.8m). At the pre-interest level, the result was £1.4m lower at £5.42m.

After a tax credit of £156,000 (£1.83m charge) net profits fell by £0.52m to £2.22m. Stated earnings per 25p share were down 4.15p to 8.35p, but the dividend of 4.5p is maintained at 4.5p net, with a final of 3p.

## comment

Ibstock Johnsen has had a rather better second half than several other contractors were expecting: so even though the pre-tax profits of £2.16m fell short of last year's mark by more than 50 per cent, the shares advanced 9p yesterday to 77p. Geographically, the results are very uneven, another good performance from the western good contractors, but the UK specialist brick business (broadly the same as in 1979) being sapped by disappointing results overseas. The Belgian subsidiaries have been either closed or sold, while Ibstock's main strategic investment of recent years—in two U.S. companies which jointly command about 5 per cent of the U.S. market—brought in only £0.26m before financing costs. In a reasonable year, the U.S. companies might make £5m before interest, but the moment rising interest rates combine with a relapse in housebuilding to defer that prospect, income gearing of 80 per cent seems likely to remain a feature of Ibstock's accounts for a while. The yield of 8.7 per cent on the £1.8m of fully taxed earnings, while a multiple of 19.8 seems to be discounting a large-scale upswing in the U.S.

## Sharp fall at Standard Industrial

PRE-TAX profits of Standard Industrial plunged from £10.0m to £1.0m for the half year to December 31, 1980, on lower sales of £4.13m, against £4.53m. The interim dividend, however, is being held at 0.9p net per 25p share—last year's final was 0.95p.

The effect of the continuing decline in orders in the textile and certain electronic components using industries has forced the closure of certain group textile activities, and the costly reshaping of components and plating divisions.

Closure of redundancy and related costs will amount to some £204,000 for the year as a whole and this figure has been written off in the interim results as an extraordinary item. Tax charge was £5,000 (£17,000).

## Pifco profits maintained

In spite of depressed trading conditions, Pifco Holdings, the electrical appliances group, raised its pre-tax profits from £555,000 to £592,000 for the six months to October 31, 1980, and is paying an increased interim dividend of 1.7p (1.6p).

Group earnings included investment income of £177,000 (£171,000). Tax took £359,000 (£341,000).

The directors anticipate reduced consumer demand following the Budget and therefore fore view the future with continued caution. In the last full year, profits rose from £1.6m to £2.01m.

## CU subsidiary lifts earnings

THE DUTCH insurance company Delta Lloyd, which is fully owned by the British Commercial Union (London), has achieved a 97 per cent increase in 1980 profit because of improved non-life results and increased investment revenues.

Pre-tax profit was £1,268.8m (£858m). Net profit was 34 per cent higher at £1,043.2m. Turnover rose 10 per cent to £1,950m (£1,744m). Costs and fees charges rose 7.5 per cent to £1,444m.

The company does not expect however, to equal this result in 1981 but profits and turnover are still expected to be satisfactory.

## Way cleared for Reliant hiving-off

The reduction in the share premium account of J. F. Nash Securities, following the hiving off of Reliant Motor, has been approved by the Court.

The reduction will take effect from April 3 and application will then be made to the Stock Exchange for permission to deal in Reliant shares on the Unlisted Securities Market. Dealings should start on April 10.

Reliant is expected to make a £700,000 loss in the financial year to September 30. Shareholders of Nash have already approved the demerger proposals at an EGM.

## GLASGOW PICTURE

The battle for control of Glasgow Picture House was won by Glasgow Picture Playhouse with an offer of £12 per share which equalled the bid from County Properties and Develop-

## Lonrho's bid for Observer referred

BY JOHN MOORE

THE BID by Lonrho, the multinational trading group, for The Observer, Britain's oldest Sunday newspaper, has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by Mr. John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade.

Lonrho submitted its application for consent by the Trade Secretary, to the change of ownership of the paper, from Atlantic Richfield, the U.S. energy group, to George Outram and Company, a Lonrho subsidiary which publishes the Glasgow Herald.

The Trade Secretary said yesterday that he is enabled by the Fair Trading Act to appoint a panel of independent members of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission "from a panel of persons maintained for the purpose to take part in the investigation of a newspaper merger."

For the purposes of the Observer investigation, Mr. Alastair Bunnell, a journalist with Independent Television News, Mr. Ronald Halstead, chairman of Beecham Products, and Mr. J. Clement Jones, former editor of the Wolverhampton Express and Star have been

appointed to serve on the Commission.

An earlier application for consent to transfer of The Observer to Outram was made conditional upon consent without reference to the Commission. The Secretary of State rejected the application because he considered that the transfer should be referred. The latest application is unconditional and this permits the Trade Secretary to refer the proposed transfer to the Commission.

## MUNTON BROTHERS/

## MONUMENT SEC'S

The offer by T. C. Munton and Co. on behalf of Munton Brothers for the ordinary shares of Monument Securities has now expired. As announced on March 16, the offer has been declared unconditional as to acceptance. The ordinary shares of Monument have now been admitted to the Official List and the offer is now unconditional in all respects.

Acceptances have been received for 5.62m shares (£8.14 per cent) of the share capital of Monument.

## Rotaprint sells factory and repays £0.6m loan

Rotaprint, maker of printing and duplications equipment, has sold its Queensbury factory for £520,000 net and has leased back the factory for 30 years at a nominal rental of £24,750 per annum, subject to five-yearly reviews.

The funds realised have been used to repay a short term loan of £600,000 from the Midland Bank. A repayment of £100,000 has been made of the medium term loan from the Bank, which is now £400,000.

Borrowings at February 28, 1981, comprised £1m of secured bank loans, of which £600,000 has since been repaid, as stated, a secured loan overdraft of £1.9m and advances guaranteed by E.C.G.D. of £133,000. Hire purchase commitments amounted to £26,800.

The company has guaranteed jointly and severally with Rotaprint GMD, the bank overdraft of its associate A/S Norofford up to a maximum of Nkr 1m (£83,500). A guarantee has also been given of a loan to A/S Norofford of Nkr 53,178 (£4,435).

Bank facilities are current until May 31, 1981, and the company holds a good working capital to meet its requirements up until that date. Prior to this, it is anticipated that satisfactory arrangements will have been concluded with the company's bankers, which will ensure the continued availability of adequate working capital.

## DARES EST/

## NSD LAND

Dares Estates, Californian subsidiary, Dares Realty Inc., is to acquire the whole of the issued share capital and certain loan notes issued by North San Diego Land Co. Inc.

NSD is a property development company with two main projects in hand in California, one the balance of a residential development at San Marcos and the other a regional shopping centre on a 6.8 acre site at Oceanside in San Diego.

Net assets, less liabilities, after revaluation of its property, are £777,137 and the loan notes have a nominal value of £101,502. It is intended that on completion

of the acquisition NSD and DRI will be merged, resulting in a substantial company able to take advantage of the many opportunities available in California where the chairman of Dares, Mr. Jackson, will supervise the companies.

The consideration consists of an initial \$878,639 to be satisfied as to 1,005,808 Dares shares, and as to \$400,000 by the issue of convertible Dares loan notes. Together with a further consideration related to the profits of NSD and DRI to be satisfied as to one half in cash and as to the other half by the issue of further Dares shares.

## GOOD PROSPECTS FOR HOLLAS

The current trading position of Hollas Group continues to be satisfactory and the board considers that prospects for the enlarged group are good, according to the chairman, Mr. A. R. Lawson.

Mr. Lawson makes his statement in a circular giving further details of the proposed acquisition of Town and County Developments, already announced.

## TSB OFFERS

Trustee Savings Banks (Holdings) announced that acceptance of its offers for the 3.15 per cent cumulative preference stocks in United Dominions Trust now amounts to: cumulative preference stock—£72,284 (£84.4 per cent); second cumulative preference stock—£60,124 (86.3 per cent); and third cumulative preference stock—£60,872 (96 per cent). The offer remains open until further notice.

## THE SAVOY

Trusthouse Forte's summons to call special meetings of the "A" and "B" shareholders of the Savoy Hotel group was lodged with the registrar of the Companies Court yesterday. A reply to this request which is being opposed by the Savoy board, is expected towards the end of next week.

## NCC in merger talks with U.S. sewing company

Mr. Graham Ferguson Lacey, chairman of NCC Energy, said yesterday that his company had entered merger talks with Simplicity, a New York City manufacturer of home sewing products. The talks follow the purchase yesterday by NCC of 759,100 Simplicity common shares at \$13 per share, a cost of \$9.8m.

Simplicity is traded on the New York Stock Exchange and has a market capitalisation of \$135m. Mr. Lacey indicated yesterday that the two companies would work together to merge and "pool our cash resources" for future oil and gas exploration. Simplicity has no such operations.

Mr. Lacey added last night that the merger talks between NCC and Simplicity would not rule out a possible deal between NCC and United Nuclear Corporation (UNC), the uranium extraction company, which is being floated in New York on Monday to hold talks with UNC.

Two weeks ago Mr. Lacey announced he was in talks with UNC which might lead to a takeover bid for NCC Energy.

## Sturla agrees £1.4m bid for First Guernsey

Sturla Holdings, the Liverpool-based finance and leasing group, has agreed an offer for First Guernsey Securities Trust which values the offshore closed-end investment company at around £1.42m.

Sturla announced yesterday that the offer—equal to 120 per cent of net assets of First Guernsey—will be in ordinary shares. These will be valued at the middle market price at the latest practicable date before the posting of the offer and will be underwritten for cash at the same price.

The company says that although the precise value of the offer cannot be calculated at present on the basis of net tangible assets as at December 31, 1980, the offer would amount to about 250p per share.

First Guernsey—which was set up in 1963—has invested mostly in the UK, with about 10 per cent of the portfolio in U.S. stocks. Investment advice is provided by Laurence Prust, stockbroker, whose clients hold the majority of the shares of the trust.

Sturla says that in the event of the offer becoming unconditional, it is likely that a proportion of the assets of First Guernsey would be realised. This would make money available to assist in the development of Sturla's leasing business.

The company says that funds would be made available to enable it to make further acquisitions in the financial services area, or in other closely related activities.

The acquisition will materially enlarge Sturla's equity base permitting a significant increase in its capacity to fund the further expansion of its leasing and financial services activities, without a commensurate increase in the level of operating overheads.

The listing of the First Guernsey—suspended last December—was restored yesterday.

## Results due next week

The market awaits with trepidation the results of Guardian Royal Exchange, Legal and General, Phoenix Assurance and Sun Alliance, all of which report on Wednesday. After this week's disappointing stories from Eagle Star and Prudential, they expect the worst from insurance companies. The downturn in underwriting is now confirming the worst fears of the market, while investment income growth has often not been rapid enough to fill the gap.

GRE, however, could show some slight improvement in underwriting losses from last year's £13.6m, even though Canada and Australia have been performing badly and liability business in the UK has been a drag on underwriting recovery. Investment income growth should enable pre-tax profits to rise from £75.8m to £85m, but Phoenix, with its U.S. involvement through Continental, could

see underwriting losses rise by half to £21m and pre-tax profits fall to match the £22m of 1979. Sun Alliance could show some significant improvement in underwriting from its large UK buildings insurance portfolio, but liability and motor losses in the UK could hold underwriting losses to 1979's level of £16m and limit pre-tax profits to £58m against £44m last year.

Net assets, less liabilities, after revaluation of its property, are £777,137 and the loan notes have a nominal value of £101,502. It is intended that on completion

about a quarter of capital employed to around a third. Analysts estimates of pre-tax profits for the year ended December 31, 1980, range from £44m to £48m, against £51m in the comparable period. Longer term, Reckitt appears to have run out of growth with a return to its former level of profitability binging on the recovery potential in the U.S. and Germany and a weakening of sterling.

Last Tuesday's news of a £22m coal-gasification contract in Brazil lends support to the analysts' view that Babcock International has good prospects in the medium term. But it cannot relieve the gloom they feel over the preliminary figures due on Wednesday. At the interim, Babcock was cautiously optimistic about an upturn in the U.S. motor industry, benefiting the American Chain subsidiary, but Detroit's production figures made only a reflex response to the autumn models before subsidising again. That removed the main

prop to forecasts of a strong second half from Babcock, and opinion is now focused on profits no higher than £15m before tax (against £22m). Given the economic climate in the UK, it would be extremely surprising if that figure were beaten into by a few exceptional items, but the final dividend is still thought more likely to be maintained than not.

Monday brings the preliminary figures from Ocean Transport and Trading and analysts are looking for between £32m and £34m, against £19.7m. This performance will be a combination of recovery and growth: the West Africa trade is coming back nicely and OCL has done well. The dividend, however, may not rise much above last year's £14.22p gross.

Other companies reporting next week include Baxi, McConnell, Brydon, Charterhouse Group, Freeman's (SW), Ladbrooke, and Melias.

## Hanger Inv. in the red

FOR 1980, major Ford dealer and vehicle leasing specialist, Hanger Investments, has suffered a pre-tax loss of £582,000, against £2.71m previously and as a result, no dividend is being paid. Payments in 1979 totalled 3p net per share.

At halfway, taxable profits slumped from £1.72m to £107,000. A highly competitive market had hit profits, but high interest rates had also been a factor.

Interest charges for the year more than doubled from £747,000 to £1.51m. Turnover improved from £72.85m to £79.9m, but trading surplus tumbled from £3.5m to £1.33m. This was struck after higher depreciation of £3.17m (£4.5m) and financing costs of £4.95m (£2.7m).

## Setback at Western Motor

A substantial drop in car deliveries and reduced retail margins forced Western Motor Holdings the Plymouth-based car distributor, into the red for the second year running. Turnover increased to £36.16m (£31.54m).

The 1980 pre-tax loss, reduced from £366,112 to £316,209 were after depreciation of £1.19m (£986,273) and increased interest charges of £2m (£741,651).

The directors are unable to recommend payment of a dividend. Last year's total was 1p. The loss per 25p share was 14.27p (14.6p).

In common with previous years, they say a first half profit of £340,000 was turned into a loss by a poor second half performance. Some of the loss-making activities have now been closed and manning levels reduced.

## NO PROBE

The Secretary of State for Trade, in accordance with a recommendation of the Director General of Fair Trading, has decided not to refer the acquisition by Kangra Holdings (Pty) of Renwick Group to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

## DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

Company	Current payment	Date of payment	Corr. Total last year	Total last year
Capsules	1.5	May 19	1.5	3.3
Catalin	nil	—	3.0157	3.8476
Cope Allman Int.	nil	—	1.79	4.59
Fairview	1.27	May 11	1.1	3.95
Firman and Sons	2.5	May 22	2	3.5
Lady Gordon	0.5	May 22	1.5	1.5
Hanger Investments	4.75	May 18	1.75	nil
Home Counties	1.33	May 6	1.33	6.5
Howden Group	1.83	June 25	2.38	5.96
Charles Hurst	1.5	May 22	3	4.5
Ibstock Johnsen	4.5	May 21	4.5	7
Lyon and Lyon	4.5	—	2.25	6.49
Macallan-Glenlivet	2.25	May 15	3.75	8.75
Bernard Matthews	4.75	—	1.6	4.8
Pifco	1.76	April 30	0.9	1.85
Standard Industrial	0.9	April 16	0.5	2.31
Tyack, Sons Turner Int.	nil	—	—	—
Wankle Collier Int.	3.8	May 15	4	10
Western Motor	nil	—	0.374	—
Wombwell Foundry	nil	—	—	0.374

\* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issue. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ Including special dividend of 1.5p. § Zimbabwe cents throughout.

## Way cleared for Reliant hiving-off

The reduction in the share premium account of J. F. Nash Securities, following the hiving off of Reliant Motor, has been approved by the Court.

The reduction will take effect from April 3 and application will then be made to the Stock Exchange for permission to deal in Reliant shares on the Unlisted Securities Market. Dealings should start on April 10.

Reliant is expected to make a £700,000 loss in the financial year to September 30. Shareholders of Nash have already approved the demerger proposals at an EGM.

## GLASGOW PICTURE

The battle for control of Glasgow Picture House was won by Glasgow Picture Playhouse with an offer of £12 per share which equalled the bid from County Properties and Develop-

ment and Trading

Company	Announcement due	Dividend (p)		This year
		Last year	Final	
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	0.23	0.26	0.23
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	0.08	0.12	0.07
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	2.25	2.0	2.0
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	2.8	3.6	2.8
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.12	1.54	1.12
Arcolec Holdings	Wednesday	3.4	3.6	3.4
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	1.25	1.976	1.25
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	2.3	2.7	2.3
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday (Burghal)	3.79	4.811	4.25
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	3.83	3.7	3.8
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	3.9	7.3	3.9
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	1.79	0.75	0.75
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	0.8	1.45	0.8
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.68	2.5	1.68
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	1.2	1.48	1.2
Arcolec Holdings	Friday	0.315	1.8972	0.315
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.0	2.15	1.0
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	1.1	1.1	1.1
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.5	2.0	1.7
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.5	3.0	1.5
Arcolec Holdings	Exchange Thursday	5.0	8.5	5.0
Arcolec Holdings	Wednesday	1.3	3.423	1.3
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	1.83	3.43	2.0
Arcolec Holdings	Friday	0.7	0.7	0.25
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	5.7	6.051	5.885
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	0.5	0.76	0.55
Arcolec Holdings	Wednesday	2.6	5.0	3.0
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	5.04	9.5	5.0
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	1.84	1.84	1.7
Arcolec Holdings	Wednesday	1.68		
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	0.6	1.5	0.6
Arcolec Holdings	Friday	1.0	1.0	1.0
Arcolec Holdings	Tuesday	2.2	5.888	2.2
Arcolec Holdings	Thursday	0.7	1.5	0.7
Arcolec Holdings	Friday	1.5	2.75	1.75
Arcolec Holdings	Monday	4.2514	6.6	4.3



## SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S COMPANY NEWS

## Take-over bids and deals

The Monopolies Commission is to allow S. and W. Berisford to renew its offer for British Sugar Corporation, provided certain undertakings are given. Berisford must cease trading in any Tate and Lyle products and operate British Sugar as a separate subsidiary without major changes in its activities. Berisford, if it decides to launch another bid, will have to pay considerably more for BSC. The latter's profits and dividends have increased sharply and the share price has doubled over the past year.

Grand Metropolitan, which recently made an agreed bid for Warner Holidays, is moving into the biotechnology field through a \$10m (£4.4m) purchase of shares in Biogen NV. GM will join three North American concerns as a corporate investor in Biogen, one of several relatively new companies in the field of genetic engineering.

Bowater Corporation, through its Australian subsidiary Bowater Australia, made an \$8.5m bid for its Australian affiliate, Escor, a holding company for industrial and commercial interests. Bowater has held a 45 per cent stake in Escor for 10 years and the bid, if successful, will significantly strengthen Bowater's interests in Australia.

British Gas Corporation paid nearly £24m for the head leasehold interest in a group of properties at Marble Arch, London. The Gas Corporation acquired the properties by making an offer for the equity of Rank Estates, a company jointly owned by Rank Organisation and Sir Robert McAlpine (Trade Investments). McAlpine's parent company, Newarthill, is receiving £12m from the deal, while Rank get £11.4m.

Birmid Quacast, the loss-making engineering group, sold its Truseast subsidiary to Ross and Catherall, a supplier of special steels and alloys, for £2.97m.

Hollas Group entered into a conditional contract to acquire Town and City Developments (Wembley) for £2.18m, to be satisfied by the issue of 2.71m Hollas shares.

Mr. "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lounrho, has dropped his plan to acquire a personal half share of the Observer, Britain's oldest Sunday newspaper. The bid will be made through Lounrho and will now automatically be considered by the Monopolies Commission.

Company bid for	Value of bid per share**	Market price**	Price bid	Value of bid £m**	Final Acct'ce date
Prices in pence unless stated.					
Avenue Close††	88½	85	78	10.77	Peachey Property
Bond Street	40*	39	34½	1.08	Anchilneck
Bond Street	28½	39	26	0.55	Grovebell
Bristol Evening Post	180*	133	105	5.82	Associated Newspapers
Carlton Inds. Central Man. and Trd.††	278*	280	255	74.65	Hwkr. Sldly.
Centraway	57½	54	55	15.20	L. R. Inds.
Denbyware	132½	120	123	1.63	Centraway
Eva Inds.	80*	89	74	2.41	Crown House
Hawthorn Leslie Inveresk	40*	40	37	2.73	Anglo
Lloyds & Scottish Savoy "A"	147½	145	107	2.12	Starwest
Lloyds & Scottish Savoy "B"	35*	35	35	7.31	Georgia Pacific
Lloyds & Scottish Savoy "C"	200*	187	185	144.21	Lloyds Bank
Lloyds & Scottish Savoy "D"	35*	29	30½	0.80	Western Bank
Lloyds & Scottish Savoy "E"	85*	90	77½	7.64	Kangra
Robertson Foods	178	174	97	20.74	Avana
Royal Bank of Scotland	141½	142	97½	316.91	Centraway
Savoy "A"	183	182	125	50.67	Trusthouse
Savoy "B"	210½	210	77½	14.30	Trusthouse
Savoy "C"	42*	51	50	0.91	Mr. Stefan Simmonds
Tunnel "B"	414½	384	320	75.55	Ward (T. W.)
UDT	57*	56	52	109.8	TSS
Warner Hols.	148	139	64½	7.01	Grand Met.
Warner Hols. "A"	117	110	55½	4.11	Grand Met.

\* All cash offer. † Cash alternative. ‡ Partial bid. § For capital not already held. \*\* Based on 27/3/81. †† At suspension. ‡‡ Estimated. §§ Shares and cash. †† Unconditional.

## Offers for sale, placings and introductions

Euroflame Holdings—Coming to the unlisted securities market by way of a placing of 1.1m ordinary shares at 30p per share.

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Company	Year to	Pre-tax profit (£000)	Earnings* per share (p)	Dividends* per share (p)
AC Cars	Sept.	143L	(115)L	—
Armitage (Geo.)	Dec.	504	(1,352)	11.3
BBA Group	Dec.	350	(8,000)	—
Beaton Clark	Dec.	1,250	(1,730)	19.2
Beaton Clark	Dec.	338	(1,150)	2.2
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	4,390	(3,580)	16.4
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	7,720	(6,420)	34.6
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	2,220	(3,020)	7.7
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	228	(1,520)	33.0
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	185	(1,130)	4.5
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	235†	(974)†	0.4†
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	1,960	(3,110)	28.6
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	2,180	(2,280)	21.9
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	7,480	(9,000)	11.6
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	65,900	(64,300)	27.0
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	2,550†	(3,000)†	13.4
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	503	(268)	16.4
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	821	(1,480)	18.8
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	125	(863)	3.2
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	3,110	(4,510)	5.1
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	7,380	(3,820)	18.5
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	20,010	(20,120)	13.1
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	4,040	(4,040)	28.4
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	19,020†	(12,060)†	22.2
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	821	(1,480)	18.8
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	685	(1,611)	1.0
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	47,280	(22,440)	30.0
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	426	(1,880)	4.8
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	3,380	(2,850)	13.6
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	5,510	(5,510)	16.9
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	1,800	(2,300)	9.9
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	505	(363)	75.4
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	42,500	(45,000)	14.2
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	472	(5,180)	0.3
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	2,870	(3,180)	9.8
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	868	(1,070)	14.1
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	11,430	(10,070)	7.1
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	24,320	(22,150)	9.9
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	4,540	(8,180)	20.8
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	1,730	(1,500)	26.7
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	387	(280)	4.6
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	730	(879)	44.1
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	19,370	(17,180)	23.9
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	1,130	(2,070)	15.2
Berkley Hambro	Dec.	1,270	(1,440)	52.8

## INTERIM STATEMENTS

Company	Half-year to	Pre-tax profit (£000)	Interim dividends* per share (p)
Aberdeen Land	Dec.	232	(756)
Abwood	Dec.	7	(38)L
Anvil Petroleum	Dec.	175	(20)
Armstrong Equip	Dec.	741	(4,390)
Beaton Clark	Dec.	1,610	(1,580)
Beckman (A.)	Dec.	685	(628)
Bell (Arthur)	Dec.	9,778	(9,156)
Berry Trust	Feb.	44	(303)
Boulton (William)	Dec.	487L	(294)
Bridport Quarry	Jan.	336	(308)
Brit. Car Auction	Jan.	1,200	(1,120)
Chmhrs. & Frigs.	Dec.	234	(84)
Land. Shop Prop.	Oct.	450	(252)
Lucas Industries	Jan.	27,470L	(12,320)
Makin (J. & J.)	Sept.	576	(565)
Paterson Zachonis	Nov.	12,230	(5,980)
Polysar	Dec.	42	(10)
Ricardo Engngs.	Dec.	438	(581)
Saga Holidays	Dec.	1,320	(1,150)
Sirdar	Jan.	2,310	(1,870)
Stothert & Pitt	Dec.	1,050L	(865)L

(Figures in parentheses are for corresponding period.) \* Dividends shown net except where otherwise stated. † For nine months. ‡ For previous 12 months. § Shareholders' profit. L Loss. † Profit after tax.

## Scrip Issues

Arthur Bell—One for two.  
Brent Chemicals—One for two.  
Percy Lane—One for five.  
Smith and Nephew—One for eight.

## Rights Issue

Country and New Town Properties—To raise £8.02m by way of a rights issue on the basis of one for two at 53p per share.

## BASE LENDING RATES

ABN Bank	12%	Hambros Bank	12%
Allied Irish	12%	Hill Samuel	12%
American Express	12%	C. Hoare & Co.	12%
Amro Bank	12%	Hongkong & Shanghai	12%
Bank of America	12%	Keyser Ullmann	12%
Bank of Australia	12%	Knowles & Co. Ltd.	12%
Bank of Canada	12%	Langris Trust Ltd.	12%
Bank of China	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Ceylon	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of India	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Japan	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Korea	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of London	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Mexico	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of New York	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Persia	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Portugal	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Russia	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Spain	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Sweden	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Switzerland	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Taiwan	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of Thailand	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the Middle East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the Pacific	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South Sea	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the North	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the South	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the West	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the World	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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Bank of the East	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
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**First Viking Commodity Traders**

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**WEEKLY PRICE**

W. E. B. DUBOIS

1. The first group of students, consisting of 10 students, was assigned to the control group. They were given the same assignment as the other groups, but they were not allowed to use any technology. They were given 10 minutes to complete the assignment.

10-10-68

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text follows]

17-00000











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21

## LOCAL AUTHORITY BOND TABLE

Authority (telephone number in parentheses)	Annual Interest gross pay- interest able	Minimum of sum	Life bond
	%	£	Year
owley (051-548 6555) .....	12½	1,000	1-2
bridge (01-478 3020) .....	13½	200	6

## BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

## BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

## LONDON MONEY RATES

## LONDON MONEY RATES

### Local authorities and finance houses

### Local authorities and finance houses

**EURO CURRENCY INTEREST RATES (Market closing Rates)****EURO CURRENCY INTEREST RATES (Market closing Rates)**

SDR linked deposits: one-month 12%.

SDR linked deposits: one-month 12%.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2686-2692.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2686-2692.

## Number of ordinary shares into which £100 nominal of convertible stock is converted

Number of ordinary shares into which £100 nominal of convertible stock is converted



Midland Bank Trst. Corp. (Jersey) Ltd.  
28-34, 188 St. St. Reber, Jersey. 053436283  
Midland Mayfair GR. 92.8 100.3 + 0.6 11.96  
Samuel Montagu Lbr. Agents  
114, Old Broad St., EC2. 01-588 6464

63, Hope St., Glasgow, G2 041-221 5521

Harvard Fund Mar. 19	US\$21.69		
Pacific Ed. Feb. 27	US\$5.65		
Wm. Westminister Jersey Fd.			
5 Li. Mont. St., St. Heffer, Jersey		0534	36241
High Income Fund	48.5		12.00
Equity Fund	63.4		2.95
International Bond	79.6		10.41

\*Selling every Thurs.

Regist. S.A.  
 10 Boulevard Royal, Liechtenberg

AM March 20, 1955  
 F.I. International Ltd.  
 P.O. Box 119, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, G.I.  
 Sterling Deposit 50.0  
 Sterling Fixed Income 50.0  
 Sterling Insurance 50.0  
 Sterling Investment 50.0  
 Total Fixed Interest 50.0  
 and Managed 50.0  
 Pacific Basin Fund  
 10 Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg.  
 SAV US\$23.25 (A-20)  
 Inc. Adv. M. & C. Inc. Waga, Ltd., London.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

↑Prices on Mar. 23. Next dealing April 7.  
 \*\*Daily dealings. \*\*Mar. 31.  
 Antischield Asset Mgt. (Bernanda)  
 P.O. Box 664, Bld. of Bernanda Bld., Bernanda  
 Reserve Assets Fd. — RUS\$9.00 — 9.21(+0.07) —  
 Prices on Mar. 23. Next dealing Mar. 31.  
 are & Prosper International  
 Office in

[illegible]

Broadband Mngt. Services (Jersey) Ltd.  
 1 Box 195, St. Heller, Jersey. 0534 27562  
 Sterling Money Fd. 0307127 1071291  
 Next subscription day April 1

**Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd.**  
 de, EC2. 01-588 4000  
 11-79 115520 44 1 73

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[illegible]



## NRI Finance Management Ltd.      Target Life Assurance Co. Ltd.

[illegible]







## INDUSTRIALS—Continued

Stock	Price	Change	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close	Settle
Harrods (20s)	220.00	+1.00	100	221.00	219.00	220.00	221.00	221.00
John Galt (20s)	100.00	+1.00	100	101.00	99.00	100.00	101.00	101.00
John Galt (10s)	50.00	+1.00	100	51.00	49.00	50.00	51.00	51.00
John Galt (5s)	25.00	+1.00	100	26.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	26.00
John Galt (2s)	12.50	+1.00	100	13.00	11.50	12.50	13.00	13.00
John Galt (1s)	6.25	+1.00	100	6.50	5.75	6.25	6.50	6.50
John Galt (0.5s)	3.12	+1.00	100	3.25	2.87	3.12	3.25	3.25
John Galt (0.25s)	1.56	+1.00	100	1.62	1.44	1.56	1.62	1.62
John Galt (0.125s)	0.78	+1.00	100	0.81	0.74	0.78	0.81	0.81
John Galt (0.0625s)	0.39	+1.00	100	0.40	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.40
John Galt (0.03125s)	0.19	+1.00	100	0.20	0.18	0.19	0.20	0.20
John Galt (0.015625s)	0.09	+1.00	100	0.10	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.10
John Galt (0.0078125s)	0.04	+1.00	100	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05
John Galt (0.00390625s)	0.02	+1.00	100	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03
John Galt (0.001953125s)	0.01	+1.00	100	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
John Galt (0.0009765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00048828125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000244140625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0001220703125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00006103515625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000030517578125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000152587890625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000762939453125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000003814697265625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000019073486328125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000095367431640625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000476837158203125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000002384185791015625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000011920928955078125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000059604644775390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000298023223876953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000001490116119384765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000007450580596923828125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000037252902984619140625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000186264514923095703125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000931322574615478515625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000004656612873077392578125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000023283064365386962890625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000116415321826934814453125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000582076609134674072265625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000002910383045673370361328125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000014551915228366851806640625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000072759576141834259033203125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000363797880709171255466015625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000001818989403545856277330078125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000009094947017729281386650390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000045474735088646406933251953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000227373675443232034666259765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000113686837721616017333129878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000056843418860800866656494390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000284217094304004333282471953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000001421085471520021666412359765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000710542735760010833206179878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000003552713678800054166030899390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000017763568394000270830154496953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000088817841970001354150772484765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000044408920985000677075386223828125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000002220446049250033853769311940625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000001110223024625016926884655971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000005551115123125084634423279878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000277555756156254231721194390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000013877787807812521158605971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000693889390390625105783029878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000034694469519531255289154496953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000173472347597656252644772484765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000086736173798781251322386223828125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000004336808689939062566119311940625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000002168404344969531253305971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000108420217248476562516529878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000005421010862386223828125826496953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000002710505431193119406254127484765625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000135525271596559719531252062386223828125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000006776263579829878125103119311940625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000338813178991544969531255155971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000016940658949695312525779878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000084703294748476562512879878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000042351647373862238281256439878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000002117582368693119406253219878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000001058791184346559719531251609878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000052939559217282987812580489390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000000264697796086439878125402446953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000013234889804321987812520122346953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000000661744490216098781251006119311940625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000000330872245108048939062550305971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000001654361225540244695312525155971953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000000827180612770122346953125125779878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000000004135903063850611931194062562879878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000000206795153192530597195312531439878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000000103397576596282987812515719878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000000051698788298298781257859878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000000002584939414914969531253929878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000000000129246970745748476562519649390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000000000646234853728738622382812598246953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.00000000000000000000000000323117426864398781254912346953125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000000000016155871343219878125245619311940625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.000000000000000000000000000807793567159655971953125122809878125s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.0000000000000000000000000004038967835798298781256140489390625s)	0.00	+1.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Galt (0.								



